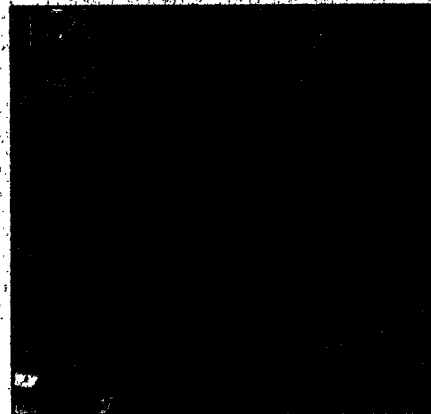


The Rocks are rugged

St. Stanislaus College's
2003 basketball team
has passion.
Sports, Page 3B



Kiln musician gives back to the
community with donations from
area concerts.
Community, Page 1B

The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 112, NO. 07 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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TWO SECTIONS, 22 PAGES

75 CENTS

Thursday
Jan. 23, 2003

W. Hancock Rescue to host educational burn

The Crosby Arboretum and the West Hancock Fire Rescue are conducting a class to assist community members in understanding prescribed burns. Wear protective clothing and footwear. The class will be held on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the West Hancock Volunteer Fire Station. For information call 533-7847 or email at olesmokie@hotmail.com.

W'land Little League membership meeting

Waveland Little League will conduct its general membership meeting for elections and possible constitution changes on Sunday, Feb. 9, at 6 p.m., at the Civic Center.

Animal shelter to host off-site pet adoptions

The Waveland Animal Shelter host adoptions at Kmart this Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHAT'S INSIDE

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 Obituaries Page 8A
 Sports Pages 2-3B
 Classified Pages 6-9B

TIDES

Mon. 12:26 a. 12:05 p.
 Tues. 1:08 a. 12:34 p.
 Wed. 1:49 a. 12:42 p.
 Thurs. 2:24 a. 12:05 p.
 7:37 p.

George J. Jolley
 Attorney
 467-9051

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**Hancock
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We're Here For You

Hancock in midst of healthcare 'crisis'

Area physicians planning 'walk-out' next week

BY GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

Try not to get sick next week.

Starting Monday, many of Hancock County's physicians are expected to join with doctors all across the

Gulf Coast to stage a "walk-out" in response to exorbitant medical malpractice premiums, closing their offices to patients and postponing or referring scheduled surgeries at Hancock Medical Center.

It's a situation that HMC Chief of Staff Roberta Chilimigras, M.D., says may last up to a month and - if the state legislature doesn't do something soon - could become permanent.

Most of HMC's medical

staff met Tuesday evening at the hospital to discuss the walk-out.

"Basically, what the physicians are trying to do is let the public be aware of what's going on," Chilimigras said yesterday. "Hancock Medical Center has lost nine physicians in the last year. ... We've lost half our surgical staff and

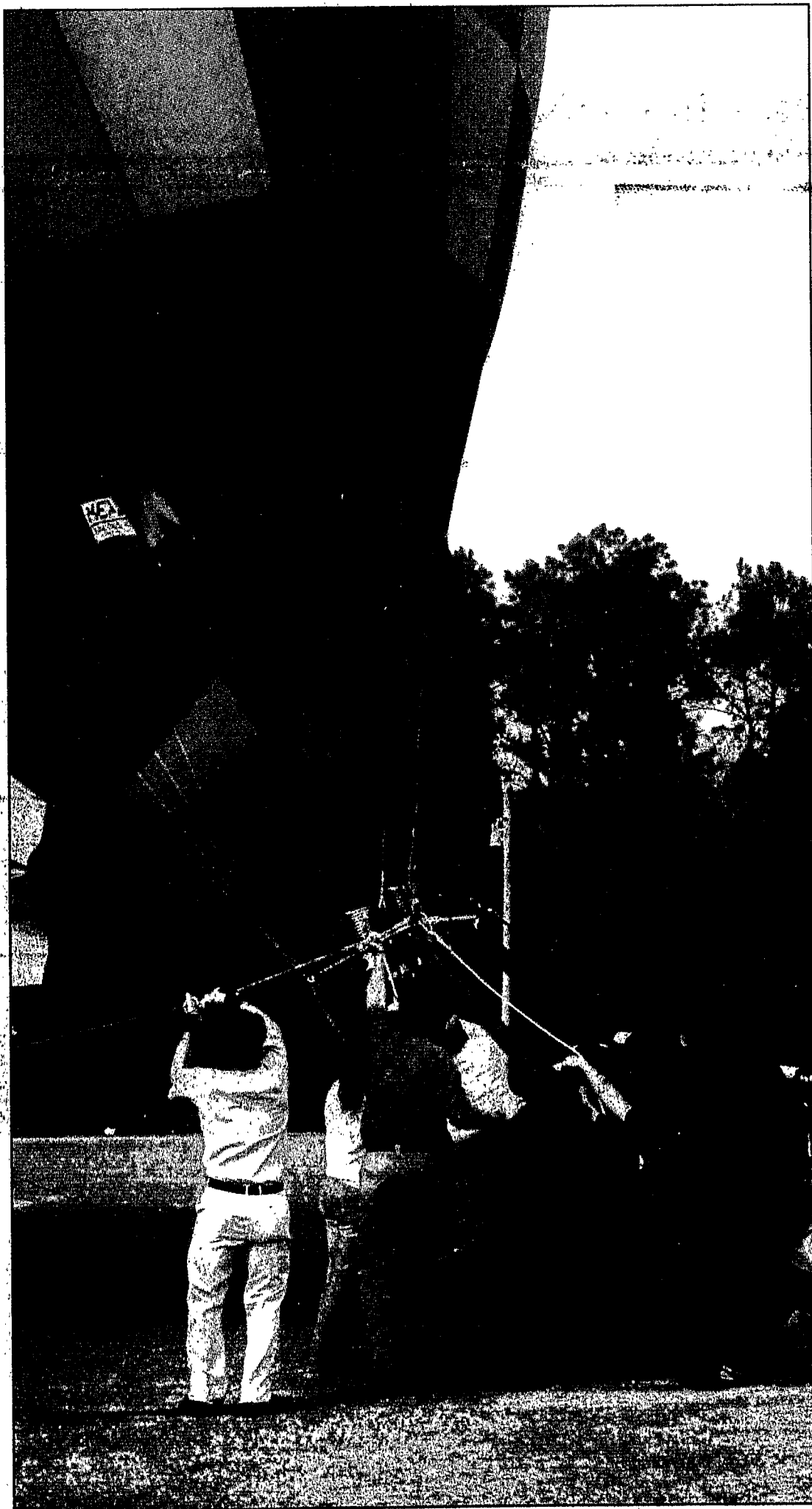
we're going to lose more.

"We need to find some way to stabilize the premiums so we don't continue to bleed physicians out of the state."

According to statement issued by HMC marketing director Janet McQueen yesterday, "Hancock

CRISIS--PAGE 7A

UP, UP AND AWAY



Lex Mauffray's physics class students at Hancock High School struggles to get Naval oceanographer Martin Booda's hot air balloon upright and airborne. See full story on page 2.

Competition hot for supt., sheriff posts

Kopf throws hat in the ring for Ladner's position

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

A total of 29 candidates had qualified in Hancock County at the Circuit Clerk's office since January 2 for local offices by noon on Wednesday, according to Circuit Clerk Pam Metzler.

Of the 29 to qualify thus far, William A. Quandt withdrew this week from the race for supervisor in

district one.

The Hancock County Superintendent of Education and Sheriff's race appear really to be heating up with four candidates to qualify for each slot. Only qualified electors residing in the county school district vote for the superintendent of education, while the entire county votes in the sheriff's race.

School administrator David Kopf is the fourth to seek the Superintendent of Education post.

Bay St. Louis' Chief of

ELECTION--PAGE 7A



Leonard Finnie and his 2-and-a-half-year-old son, L.J., happen upon the release of two pelicans Monday morning at the Long Beach harbor.

WRANPS rescues, frees injured, orphan pelicans

BY SHANNON
JENKINS
Staff Writer

Two pelicans owe their lives to a local group of volunteers who have made it their mission to care for injured and orphaned native wildlife.

Two representatives from Wildlife Rehabilitation and Nature Preservation Society (WRANPS) released the two Louisiana state birds Monday morning at the

PELICANS--PAGE 6A

A Poignant Statement



On the 30th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision on Roe vs. Wade, the decision that made first trimester abortions legal in 1973, one area church has made their own poignant statement. In a five acre field located on Hwy. 603 in Kiln, the parishioners of Annunciation Catholic Church have erected 4,400 crosses which represent the 4,400 abortions which occur in the United States daily, about 1.5 million annually said one parishioner. At the center of the field, overlooking the scene stands a life-size crucifix crafted by another church member. A "candlelight prayer vigil for the unborn" will be held tonight in Jackson.

Echo Staff Photo by Bennie Shallbetter

Physics class is full of hot air

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

It wasn't exactly up, up and away in a beautiful balloon for most of Lex Mauffray's physics classes on Monday, but the students did get some experience in the sport of hot air ballooning when Diamondhead resident Martin Booda set up his colorful balloon at Hancock County High School for the day.

High winds made it nearly impossible for students to get the balloon afloat for much of the day. But that didn't spoil any of the fun for trying.

Booda, an oceanographer at the Naval Oceanographic Office at Stennis Space Center is a private balloon pilot, and has been enjoying the sport since 1989 with friends. He decided to get his license and his own balloon in 1996.

He met Mauffray when the two were in a stage production together and made a commitment to come to the school. The balloon demonstration fit into the student's study of aerospace.

Each class took turns trying their luck at launching the balloon, an experience in itself. Students learned about what Booda called the ventura effect, an aerodynamic effect which basically means that the wind outside the balloon was compressing the air inside the balloon making complete inflation impossible.

The balloon came close to launching several times but never quite made it off the ground Monday afternoon. The balloon launch was successful for the early morning class because the winds are typically calmer early in the morning and late in the afternoon, Booda said. Three ropes tied to trucks held the balloon in place for tethered rides.

Locally, Booda, does most of his ballooning, he says, in Northern Hancock or Pearl River Counties, where the farmers fields are more plentiful. That is important because one never knows where a landing might be when ballooning. The winds and the directions of the winds govern where the ride will take you.

In Albuquerque, where the Annual Hot Air Balloon Festival draws hundreds of Balloon enthusiasts each October, the winds are more predictable, says Booda, and there are endless places to land in the desert.

Ballooning is not a solitary sport. It requires a crew of at least four to set up for flight. Setting up doesn't require a lot of skill, he says, if you can hold on to a rope that's about all you need to know. But the job doesn't end there. Once the balloon is flying, it has to be followed so that when it lands the crew can find it and be ready to help pack up for the trip home.

"I try to make sure that a

person gets to ride after they have helped a couple of times," he said. The balloon holds three passengers besides himself.

Booda's balloon, wicker basket and burners (the three basic parts of the operation) fit easily into the bed of his oversize pickup truck, and for longer trips he uses a trailer to protect the equipment from the weather. He pulled the trailer to Albuquerque last fall and has traveled to many other locations to pursue his sport,

sometimes with, sometimes without his own equipment. In France, he used other's equipment.

"It was a beautiful place to fly and we landed in front of chateaus and castles," he said.

In this part of the country, Booda said, Baton Rouge is the biggest ballooning area. The U.S. National Ballooning championships used to be held there. In Mississippi, Canton and Jackson are popular ballooning areas, he said.

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Pass Police nabs suspect after short-lived car chase

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

A 19-year-old Pass Christian man landed himself in the Harrison County Jail under a \$14,000 bond Monday night after leading police officers on a short-lived chase.

A pursuit entailed after Pass Christian police officers tried stopping Mario Lawton, who was driving 105 miles per hour on North Street around 9 p.m.

According to a police report, Lawton crashed the 1992 Buick into a tree and fled on foot. After searching through a wooded area, the Pass Christian Police K-9 Luko found the suspect hiding in the cab of a dump truck.

Lawton struggled with the K-9 before being arrested for possession of stolen property. He was treated for bite wounds before being transported to jail.

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Bay St. Louis

Ast

BY SHANNON JENKINS

Staff Writer

Four astrophysicists answered questions from students at the annual meeting at John Center.

STS-113

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BY SHANNON JENKINS

Staff Writer

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Astronauts land at Stennis

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

Four astronauts signed hundreds of autographs and answered just as many questions from busloads of students Wednesday morning at John C. Stennis Space Center.

STS-113 astronauts Commander Jim Wetherbee, Pilot Paul Lockhart and Mission Specialists Michael Lopez-Alegria and John Herrington gave a presentation about their recent mission to the International Space Station (ISS) to students from Pearl River High in Pearl River, La.; Central Middle School in Gulfport; Charles B. Murphy from Pearlport; Choctaw High from Philadelphia; and Mississippi School for Math and Science in Columbus.

Their 14-day mission began Nov. 25, 2002, and included station assembly, spacewalks and crew and equipment transfers. STS-113 was the 15th shuttle mission to the station.

Lopez-Alegria said it was his third trip into space.

"It gets better every time (I go to space)," he said. "It gets busier and more satisfying. With each mission you get more and more responsibilities."

And then, with a smile, he said, "We didn't lose or break anything."

After each mission, Lopez-Alegria said the astronauts have a month of debriefing and then a month of making appear-



Echo staff photos by Shannon Jenkins
NASA astronaut John Herrington signs autographs Wednesday morning at John C. Stennis Space Center.

ances at centers like Stennis.

Herrington, who belongs to the Chickasaw tribe, is the first Native American astronaut who is a tribal member.

"It's a very humbling experience," he said. "A lot of people look at me as a role model. It's very important."

He said the Chickasaw nation brought about 200 people to see the launch in November.

Herrington said his job is worth it if he encourages other people to work harder for their dreams and goals.

"Our job is to inspire people," he said.

Two students who attended the presentation found Herrington and the other

astronauts to be just that — inspiring.

Lindsey Johnson, a 17-year-old senior at Pearl River High in Louisiana, said it was very interesting meeting actual astronauts. She and her fellow classmates brought along a robot they made in a physics class.

Johnson said NASA had sponsored the project for the last two years.

Jay Pitman, 17, was also involved in the creation of the robot and was equally impressed with the astronauts.

"It was interesting seeing where physics can lead," he said. "Meeting the astronauts gives a real-life application of what we learn in school."



From left are Pilot Paul Lockhart, Commander Jim Wetherbee, Mission Specialist John Herrington and Mission Specialist Michael Lopez-Alegria.

Coast Electric warns local merchants about check scam

Con artist targets local quick stops with bogus payroll checks, gets two cashed

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

A payroll check scam recently erupted in Hancock County, gaining the attention of Coast Electric Power Association.

According to a news advisory issued by the company on Tuesday, "local merchants have notified officials at Coast Electric that a person posing as a Coast Electric employee has attempted to cash counterfeit payroll checks at local businesses, primarily quick stops."

Ron Barnes, manager of Marketing and Member Services for the company, said a local merchant became suspicious when a person tried to cash two payroll checks dated for the same day from Coast Electric on Monday.

The merchant reportedly refused to cash the checks and called another quick stop to warn them.

Barnes said the other merchant claimed he or she had already cashed such a check for approximately \$350. A merchant in Picayune also reported cashing a similar check for about the same amount.

Barnes said the person posing as a Coast Electric employee apparently used a signature off another

company's website.

"No representative's name from the company appeared on the check," he said. "Only the company's name and address were correct."

Nor was the check made out to a Coast Electric employee. Barnes said the person probably used a fictitious name.

"The scary thing was that (the check) looked real," he said. "It had a watermark and every-

thing, but it didn't look like a Coast Electric check."

John Holston, manager of Financial and Administrative Services, issued a statement in the advisory saying "Coast Electric payroll checks have two signatures in multi-colored ink." He urged merchants who doubted the authenticity of a payroll check to contact any Coast Electric office or their local bank.

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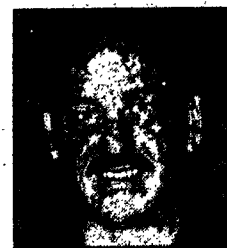
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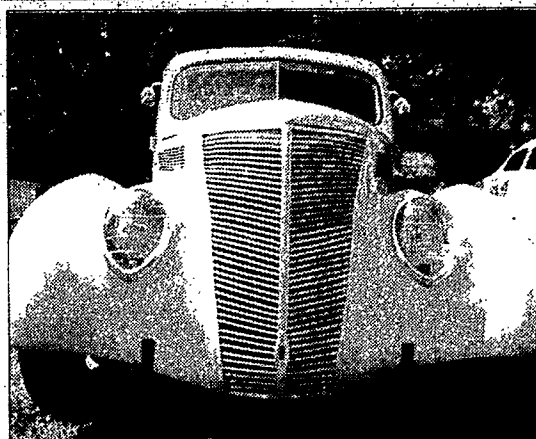
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Dear Neighbors,

Mississippi urgently needs your help. The medical malpractice crisis affecting your doctors and your hospital has not been alleviated. The progress that the legislature made at the expense of time and money, was a step in the right direction but did not provide a timely fix to the urgent problem of medical malpractice. I want the public to clearly understand that the doubling and quadrupling of medical malpractice premiums, has left doctors unable to afford malpractice insurance. In some cases it is not even available. No doctor wants to abandon patients or provide inadequate healthcare, but we must make a living and take care of our obligations. This is not an argument of silly doctors quibbling about losing a small percent of their income, this is a problem where doctors absolutely cannot afford or obtain malpractice insurance in Mississippi.

The Mississippi Medical Association Insurance Company, commonly known as MACM, is asking for an increase of 45 percent this year and possibly 100 percent next year. Physicians who are changing insurance companies are forced to buy a tail policy. A tail policy covers any new cases that will come along with time that are not covered by the active policy that the physician or hospital holds. The tail coverage premiums are 200 percent or more of the physicians' or hospitals' last policy. The future holds a doubling on almost all medical malpractice cases, tort reform has never seen a decline in cost. At the present time it is inconceivable that practices, as you know them now, will be in existence three years from today.

We desperately need a quick fix to save the doctors, to save the hospitals in our area. Only the legislators and the Governor can make these needed changes. Most physicians cannot afford the increases at the present time nor, can they afford to wait indefinitely for changes to occur that allow malpractice insurance to again be affordable. We need help now.

I speak as a resident of Waveland, not as a physician in our area. If we lose our doctors and lose our hospitals it will have a devastating impact to our area. We will not only jeopardize our healthcare systems but we will possibly impact the economy of the area in a negative manner.

Please write your representative, senators and Governor and explain that you understand the situation and that we need some form of help to make medical malpractice more affordable and available. We cannot wait five years to have it enacted.

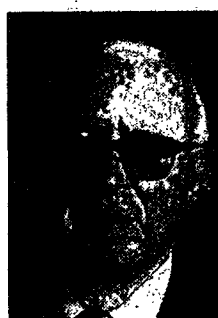
I appreciate your concern and hope that you find it in your heart to help us, as well as your future, by enacting these changes.

Sincerely,
Allen Koskan, MD

OPINION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2003

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Mardi Gras memories from long ago days

With the Christmas holidays behind us, many are now involved in Mardi Gras preparations for balls and parades.

Mardi Gras day, or Fat Tuesday as it is referred to by many, will be on March 4, so that is not too far away.

Many of the krewes have been busy for some time in coming up with their parade themes. Some are already working on their floats and have only the final touches to apply.

Participation in Mardi Gras parades is really open to folks of all ages. There are pre-school parades such as the Bay-Waveland Headstart one; elementary, such as Bay Catholic, the Krewe of Kids, etc., in addition to Nereids, Real People, Pass Christian, so parades are of all ages.

Parade goers are also of all ages, from babes in arms to our seniors.

Parades are of all types, too, on tri-cycles, golf carts, wagons, bicycles, in addition to commercial and recreational water craft.

I was really too young to remember my first Mardi Gras parade. My mother was from New Orleans, and every Mardi Gras day we went to the city for the parades.

It was really convenient for us, as we would catch the commuter train at Nicholson Avenue which was only three blocks from home.

We would disembark from the train at the head of Canal Street, spend the day in New Orleans and return that night.

I was visiting some friends on Sunday, and we were talking about earlier

Mardi Gras parades in New Orleans and how things have changed.

Just about all of the kids and older folks in those days wore some type of costumes. I know myself and three younger brothers were always in costumes for Mardi Gras day.

Many of the men, if they were not in costume, would wear their Sunday best, including neck ties.

Attire at parades is a lot different today. Some folks seem to wear very little clothing, especially in the big city.

I still think the New Orleans parades are missing much since the horses have been replaced, as well as the flambeaux for the night parades.

Still, with all the changes, Mardi Gras is a great and fun time for many.

We will be keeping you abreast of the parades in our area as their time nears.

As most of you know, one of my pet peeves is one-eyed vehicles, as I have been commenting about them for many years.

Before 7 a.m. yesterday morning, I spotted a school bus on U.S. Highway 90 with only one headlight operating.

I made a circle to check the name on the bus on one of Bay St. Louis' narrow streets, and as I passed it in the opposite direction could read Mississippi Progress.

Apparently the driver did not know a headlight was not operating, but sure should have checked to see if all the lights were operational before starting the early morning run.

50 years later: 'The 'wolf-whistle murder'

Almost 50 years since Emmett Till, a 14-year-old Chicago schoolboy was yanked by two white men from his great-uncle's Delta cotton patch cabin, brutally killed and tossed into Tallahatchie River, his legacy refuses to die.

It became popularly known back then as the "wolf-whistle murder," based on the claim of a white woman storekeeper in the hamlet of Money that Till had suggestively smarted off to her as he left the store with his cousins.

That supposed breach of the Deep South's code of protecting white woman-

hood against lustful black males set off events that ended in young Till's death at the hands of the woman storekeeper's husband and his brother-in-law.

Acquitted by a Tallahatchie County jury of 12 white males in a trial scene virtually replicated in the prize-winning novel and movie "To Kill A Mockingbird," the two men three months later sold their story of how they killed

Emmett Till to Look Magazine.

Two weeks ago, news stories went out across the country, reporting that Till's mother, 81-year-old Mamie

Till Mobley had died.

Her decision to let the horribly battered corpse of her son lie at a Chicago church in a pine casket, open to public view by an estimated throng of 50,000 mourners who filed by, shockingly projected the case onto the nation's radar screen and stirred broad scale resentment over the crime.

In itself, reports of her death rekindled interest in the sordid 1955 lynching, an event which for the first time thrust Mississippi's quaint system of racial justice into the gaze of the nation and the world.

Poetically, even before Mrs. Mobley's death, a nationwide reprise of the Till case had been produced for airing January 20 on the PBS documentary

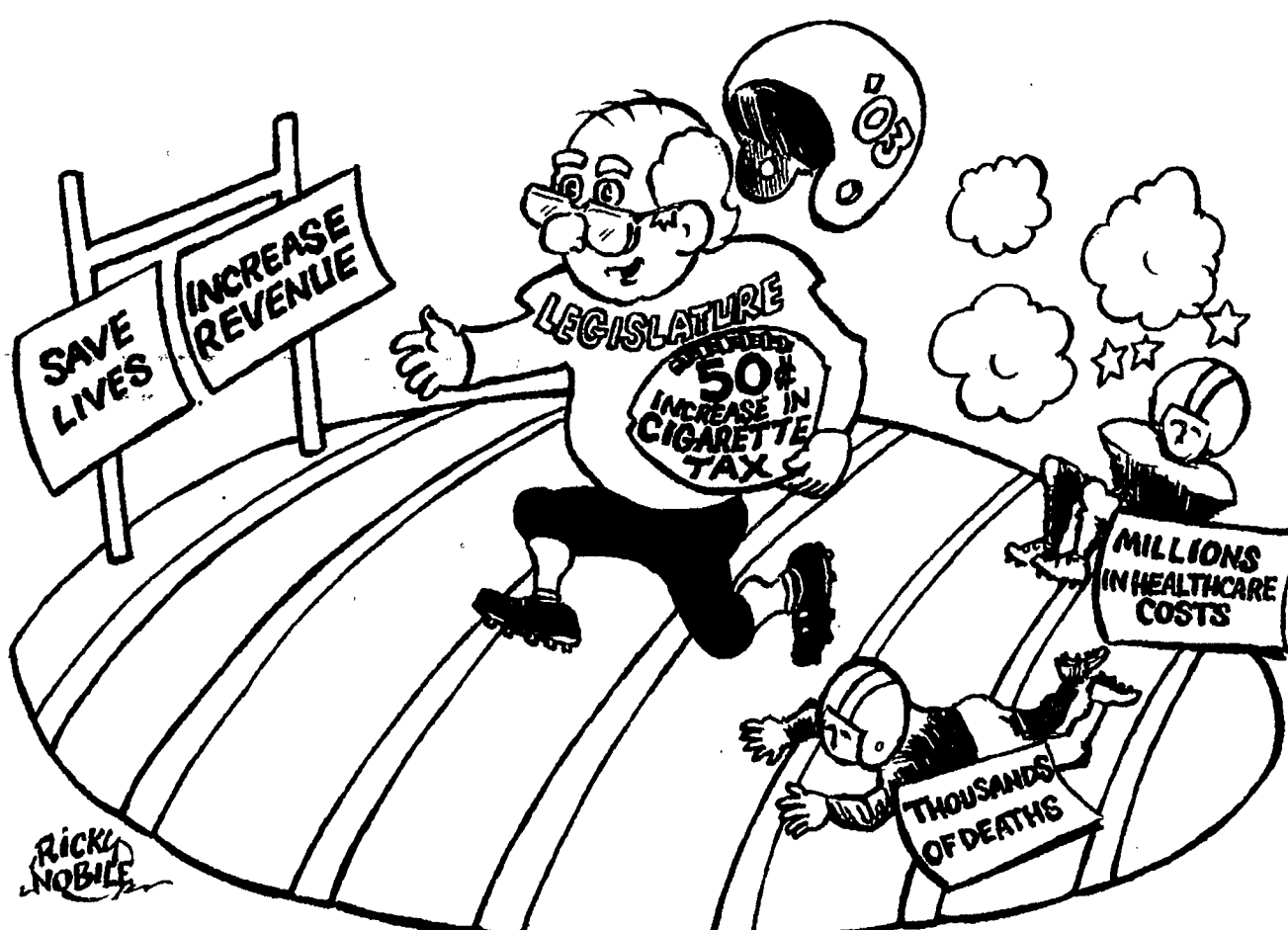
"American Experience - the Emmett Till Story" produced by Stanley Nelson. Several national publications and TV networks earlier had given it favorable reviews.

When Roy Bryant, then 23, and his burly brother-in-law, J. W. Milam, 46, were brought to trial September 14, 1955 in a steamy courtroom in the tiny town of Sumner, 70 reporters from around the U.S., England, and even one with the Communist Daily Worker, converged to cover the trial.

Then the Jackson-based Mississippi staff correspondent for the New Orleans Times-Picayune, I was one of those reporters who covered the Till trial in its entirety, plus later events in

MINOR-PAGE 5A

TWO MORE QUARTERS AND MISSISSIPPI WINS...



Are you 'rich'?

Based on past Mississippi tax returns, the economic growth package now proposed by President Bush will directly benefit almost 700,000 Mississippi taxpayers, or about one-quarter of our state's entire population. So much for the myth that "tax cuts are for the rich."

A quarter of Mississippi's people certainly are not among the elusive "richest 1 percent of Americans" who so many pro-tax folks repeatedly say would be the only beneficiaries of tax relief. The liberals' old politics as usual class warfare charade is not working, because it is not reality.

Tax relief is for tax payers of all tax brackets. Reduced tax burdens for taxpayers can benefit all Americans of all income levels, even in relatively poor states like ours.

Look at the numbers. Under the President's growth package, 696,000 Mississippi taxpayers would have lower income tax bills in 2003 by qualifying for one or more of the President's

reduction proposals.

There is little doubt that the 165,000 Mississippi business taxpayers impacted by this plan could use this relief to invest in new equipment, increase pay, or maybe hire additional workers. It is just simple economics.

Individuals or businesses who have more money in their pocket will spend more. When folks spend money on goods and services, new jobs are created, increasing employment and improving our economy.

If this money is out of your pocket and back in Washington, the only folks benefiting are Washington bureaucrats - good for Washington D.C., bad for Mississippi and the American economy.

For you married couples, the President's plan is particularly attractive because it would accelerate the reduction of the marriage penalty - the indefensible tax which married couples pay simply because they choose to get married. In fact, 269,000 Mississippi



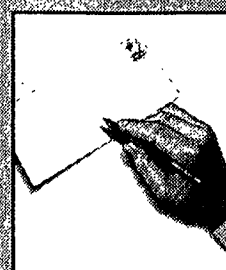
From the Senate

By U.S. Sen. Trent Lott

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



couples may directly benefit from the acceleration of marriage penalty reductions, which were originally scheduled to kick-in way off in 2005 and beyond.

This is particularly heartening for me, because as your Senator I have been a frequent critic of the marriage penalty. The marriage tax discourages families. The marriage tax is unfair and unneeded. In an age when so many institutions and individuals are trying to promote the benefits of marriage and family structure, the federal government should make it easier to get married, not harder.

Additionally, almost 250,000 Mississippi couples and single parents will ben-

efit from the President's proposal to accelerate the increase in the child tax credit.

Again, the federal government should promote families by making it easier for people to have children and raise them. As with the marriage penalty, the increase of the child tax credit from \$600 to \$1,000 was originally scheduled to phase-in beginning in 2005.

If passed, the President's plan will enable this very beneficial increase to kick-in this year.

The reductions in the marriage penalty will parallel existing reductions to the death tax. This is another

LOTT-PAGE 5A

The Sea Coast Echo

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Minor -- murder

the case.

Since I'm one of the very few surviving journalists who witnessed the trial, a integral part of an event that now is believed a triggering mechanism for the civil rights struggle to follow, NBC television network and producers of the Till documentary sought me out for interviews.

But this is not about me. It's to try and place in perspective the historic significance of the Till case and how it remains a stain on the nation's, and Mississippi's conscience.

Perhaps the most dramatic, courageous act I have ever witnessed in my journalistic career, was the sight of Till's great uncle, Mose Wright, then 64, rising out of the witness chair, and pointing a trembling finger at Milam, uttering the words, "that's him," to identify the beefy Milam as the one who burst into his cabin and with another man dragged Till outside and drove off in a pickup.

Four days later, the youth's puffy body, weighted down with a discarded cotton gin fan, was found snagged near the river bank of the Tallahatchie. Outrageously, 300-pound

County Sheriff Clarence Strider refused to concede the body was Till, testifying in the trial that it could have been planted by black civil rights groups.

It took only one hour and five minutes for the jury to return a not guilty verdict. This reporter, sitting in front of the flimsy wooden door to the jury room could hear peals of laughter inside as the jury supposedly deliberated.

A paragraph from the dispatch I filed after the acquittal of Milam and Bryant (and which I have included in my "Eyes on Mississippi" book published in 2001) reads thusly:

"To the sweaty, tense courtroom audience, it was clear that not two men but a system as old as the Constitution of the United States, and a way of life which may be older, had been on trial."

Although the jury verdict and disdainful remarks made immediately after the trial by the jury foreman were a mockery of justice, those who officially represented the state of Mississippi in the trial were models of jurisprudence.

Circuit Judge Curtis Swango, whom I had known

previously as a highly-respected state legislative leader, maintained remarkable decorum throughout the trial, despite the emotional tension which hovered in the courtroom like the cloying summertime humidity of the Mississippi Delta.

A special prosecutor, former FBI agent Robert B. Smith, III of Ripley, was appointed by then Atty. Gen. J. P. Coleman to assist Dist. Atty. Gerald Chatham, who earlier had announced he was retiring because of his health.

Smith played a key role in finding, and providing protection for several of the state's vital witnesses, including Mose Wright and 17-year-old black youth Willie Reed who placed the two accused white men at the suspected murder scene.

A great many Mississippians, certainly in the Delta, were surprised in the first place that Milam and Bryant were indicted and brought to trial, given the hostile public opinion that existed in Tallahatchie County and environs over the case.

Few knew why that happened. Only because Atty. Gen. Coleman, backed up by

Continued from Page 4A

Gov. Hugh White, both of whom were keenly aware Mississippi's image would be seriously damaged if the state took no action, pushed local authorities to prosecute the case to the fullest.

But the outcome of the trial, made worse three months afterwards when Milam's and Bryant's admissions of guilt appeared in Look Magazine under the byline of flamboyant Alabama author William Bradford Huie, again served to hold the state up to national ridicule as somewhat of an outlaw place.

It is little comfort that Milam and Bryant, initially looked upon as local heroes in preserving the South's way of life, became outcasts in their community after the Look article was published, and were literally forced to leave the state.

Milam died in the latter 1980s and Bryant in 1994. Despite hopes of the documentary producers that the case could be reopened, I personally see little chance of that happening with both principals dead and virtually no evidentiary material available to bring a viable case.

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Lott -- are you rich?

Continued from Page 4A

unnecessary and unfair tax which impacts many Mississippians with land and other major assets, most of which have been in families for generations. Previously the federal government could take most of some estates after the death of the owner.

However, with the death tax on its death bed and the marriage penalty heading toward annulment, America is making real progress in the fight for tax relief.

Perhaps most significant in the President's current proposal is that up to 479,000 Mississippians,

both married and single, will benefit from the proposed acceleration of the 10 percent income tax bracket expansion. Under the President's plan, these Mississippians could benefit this year from a proposal which was originally scheduled five years from now.

At least one-fourth of Mississippians stand to directly benefit from the economic growth package proposed by President Bush, and obviously many more will benefit indirectly from the new economic activity that these tax measures will spur in our

state. When you hear the worn rhetoric from the left about tax cuts benefiting only the "wealthiest 1 percent of Americans," ask yourself: how did a quarter of Mississippi's population get to be so "rich"?

Senator Lott welcomes any questions or comments about this column. Write to: U.S. Senator Trent Lott (487 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (Attn: Press Office)

'Southern Fried Jazz' for musical appetites

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Southern Fried Jazz Band, an eight-man jazz band led by trumpeter Don Edwards, will perform for Coast Community Concerts Monday, Jan. 27, at Biloxi Junior High School auditorium on Father Ryan Avenue. Concert time is 7:30 p.m.

With vocalist Starr Acheson, the band plays spirited renderings of classic Dixieland music, from the archives (Give Me Your Kisses) to the classics (Sweet Georgia Brown and Bill Bailey) and on to a knee-slapping journey into that Dixieland state of mind.

Based in Charlotte, N. C., the band was formed by Edwards, whose Dixieland skills were well-honed by his numerous performances

during the Big Band era and 15 years as a member of top show bands in Vegas.

He has backed some of the Dixieland greats, including Louis Armstrong and the World's Greatest Jazz Band. Southern Fried has repeatedly performed for many notables, including Presidents Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter at the White House, as well as in the Hallmark made-for-TV movie Best Friends, filmed in the Carolinas for CBS. President Russell Thompson said this third concert of the season precedes the much-awaited Three Hits and a Miss, a Broadway revue, which returns to the Coast on March 7 by popular request. Several of the performers starred in the New York show, Forever Plaid.

Main Street Methodist celebrates 150 years

Main Street United Methodist Church will be celebrating its 150th year anniversary with special homecoming services on January 26, 27, and 28.

Rev. Keith Tonkel, who was raised in Bay St. Louis and a former member of Main Street United Methodist Church, currently serves the Wells United Methodist Church in Jackson, Miss. and is a ministerial advisor for the Methodist Hour. He will be the guest speaker.

Tonkel will speak Sunday, January 26 at the 11 a.m. service, and also on the special services to be held on Sunday evening, Monday Jan. 27 and

Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.

A special music presentation will also be included in each evening service. On Sunday evening The Driskill Mountain Boys (a Bluegrass/Christian music group) will perform, on Monday evening Main Street's own Chancel Choir will sing, and on Tuesday evening Dan Howard will perform some of today's contemporary music. As always, all are welcome to come to any or all of these services. Main Street United Methodist Church is located at the corners of Main Street and Second Street in downtown Bay St. Louis.

For more information, call 467-4538.

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Courthouse chemical problem continues

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Disagreement continued at a meeting of the Hancock County Board of Supervisors over the solution to the problem of pesticide contamination under the Hancock County Courthouse.

Henry Martinez, owner of GM and R Construction, the company contracted to complete work on the 90 year old building; John Szabo, an environmental consultant representing Covington and Associates; and other consultants told supervisors that they did still did not agree with many of the recommendations made by the Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health (CTEH).

CTEH is another environmental consulting com-

pany hired by Compton Engineering and the Board of Supervisors to access the potentially hazardous situation.

Covington and Associates presented the board with their recommendations for a health and safety plan. The plan includes mandatory usage of half face respirators as well as protective clothing. CTEH recommended the use of dust masks and protective clothing, but the use was optional, Szabo said. Szabo said that the five workers who became ill after working in the crawl space last fall (100 percent of the employees that worked in the space, Covington's report said) were all wearing dust masks.

"I feel that dust masks are not sufficient protection," he said.

OSHA does not have a say in the matter at this point, supers were told. They put out the guidelines and we must conform to them said Martinez. But because the safety plan recommended by CTEH was what the workers were already doing when they became ill, Szabo said, if they went back to work under those conditions and someone complained, OSHA would step in.

Szabo also said his company disagreed with some of the testing methods and results from CTEH, especially the estimated dust concentrations that workers would encounter in the crawl space.

"One person crawling through the space, as was done in the test," Szabo said "Would not be accurate for several workers with elec-

trical cable and other equipment. The dust concentrations would be much higher and the work environment be much more hazardous."

The report will be passed on to all subcontractors, said Martinez. One worker who became ill has filed a claim with Workers Comp.

"I just want to make it clear that work is being held up," said Martinez. "My concern and the concern of our consultants and everyone else involved is the safety of the workers."

He also said that if supervisors and consultant came to an agreement about a safety plan, work at the courthouse could continue the next day. Work has virtually come to a standstill at the building because workers have basically finished all they can until the matter is settled, he said.

Bay High Steppers are state champs

THE SEA COAST
ECHO

The Bay High Steppers, under the direction of Natalie Skinner, entered the American All Star Competition January 11 at Hinds Community College in Raymond, Miss. and returned the Division II Mississippi State Champions in High Kick, Pom and Ensemble.

Dance teams from the entire state of Mississippi competed in various categories. The Bay High Steppers placed first out of 14 other teams in the Ensemble Category. They also placed first out of eight teams in the Pom Category and first out of six teams in the High Kick Category.

The officers placed second in their category. Due to the team's dedication and hard work, they fought their way to the top and earned the championship.

This is the first time in Bay High history that the dance team has placed first in three categories.

The team also competed in two marching competitions earlier this year and received superior ratings at both. They also hold the title of Most Outstanding Dance Team at the Perk competition in November.

"The staff of Bay High and the parents of the girls have supported us throughout the entire year."



Members of the Bay High Steppers celebrate their victory as the Division II Mississippi State Champions in High Kick, Pom and Ensemble at the American All Star Competition at Hinds Community College.

This is such an accomplishment for our girls and the school. I am so proud of this group. They have made this year such a great memory," said Skinner.

Team officers include Marisa Turcotte, captain; Ericka Stieber, co-captain; Elysha Thompson, co-captain; Jennifer Magee, sec-

retary; and LeAnn Graves, freshman lieutenant. Members include: Leslee Bullock, Tabitha Jones, Alicia Mitchell, Arrian White, Anna Stuart, Christina Rowell, Kristina Quintini, Tasia Poyadov, Tori Ferrill

Mary Monks, Melisa Akers, Deret Laughlin, Rebecca McWilliams, Paulette Valle, Courtenay Ginn, Bridget Johnson, Ashley Green. Manager is Tiffany Kennedy and director/choreographer is Natalie Skinner.

Pelicans -- fly, be free

Long Beach harbor.

Uneeda Laitinen, a member of the WRANPS rescue team, and Richard Burton, a volunteer, watched as the birds wobbled out of their cages, spread their wings and happily took flight.

The brown pelicans circled over their caretakers and a father and son who were playing on the beach before taking a dip in the Gulf several feet from where they were released.

"I feel privileged to work with WRANPS and these wonderful birds," Laitinen said. "It's very gratifying and rewarding to see these animals released back into their natural environment."

Laitinen said both pelicans were brought to WRANPS in November.

"The adult had gotten wrapped in fishing lines, which had pinned its wings against its body," she said. "There was also a hook stuck in its foot."

The Bay St. Louis resident said the adult was treated with antibiotics for

the infection in the foot and for the cuts on its body from the fishing line.

She said the juvenile also received antibiotics in addition to some stitches for an

8-inch cut on its neck.

"When (the pelican) would dive down to fish, the fish would fall out of the hole or would get backed up in his throat," Laitinen said.

"He was basically a dead bird if we hadn't gotten him."

Laitinen said these were the first pelicans WRANPS released this year.

Continued from Page 1A

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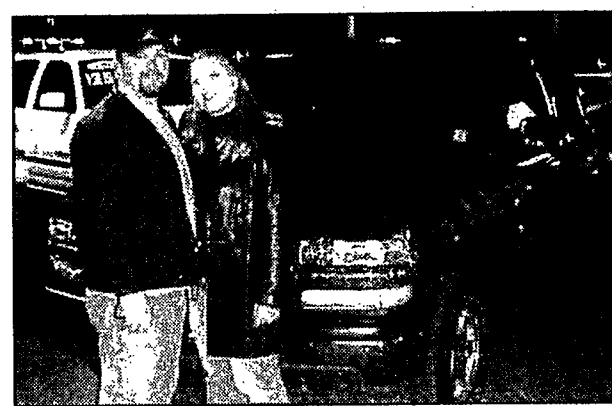
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Crisis -- doctors to walk out

Continued from Page 1A

Medical Center empathizes with the efforts of our surgeons to improve conditions resulting from unaffordable and sometimes unavailable medical liability insurance.

"The added burden of spiraling malpractice insurance rates has forced some into early retirement. Others have chosen to relocate out of state. We hope this situation is quickly resolved by swift, meaningful legislative action to ensure accessible health care for our residents."

"This dramatic move comes at a great personal cost to our doctors," HMC Administrator Hal W. Leftwich, FACHE, said in the release. "These physicians are tireless advocates for their patients, and spend many hours each week without compensation for charity care."

According to the release, the county-owned hospital has also watched its own malpractice premiums nearly quadruple over the past five years: "In 2002 after paying over \$300,000 in premiums, HMC was faced with a \$207,500 capital call to keep the insurance provider solvent. The renewal quote for 2003 was nearly \$500,000, forcing the hospital to seek coverage with another provider with lower limits and a large deductible," according to CFO Brandon Slocum.

"We have a steadfast commitment to provide quality health care for our community," Leftwich said, "and we are making contingency plans for patients requiring surgical services."

Leftwich did say the hospital emergency department plans to remain open.

Dr. Irene Koskan, in partnership with Dr. Sayeed

Aziz in Bay St. Louis, said she will support the walk-out next week, closing her office and only seeing patients who are already in the hospital or who have an emergency. Koskan said the physicians who are walking out next week are "trying to help all of us. It's not just a matter of price. Without malpractice insurance, we cannot practice in hospitals."

"The fact of the matter is that there are several good physicians who cannot get insurance."

She said that her current medical malpractice coverage expires Feb. 10. If she's unable to renew her policy, she said, she'll either have to retire or move out of state.

"It's a crisis for the whole medical community ...," Koskan said, and "it's a crisis that affects all of us." Koskan's husband, Allen Koskan, M.D., is an eye surgeon with a Bay St. Louis practice. In an open letter to the people of Hancock County, printed elsewhere in this edition of the Echo as a paid advertisement, Koskan said "Mississippi urgently needs your help. ... The progress that the legislature made at the expense of time and money (last year) were steps in the right direction, but did not provide a timely fix to the urgent problem of medical malpractice."

"No doctor wants to abandon patients or provide inadequate healthcare, but if we cannot afford or obtain malpractice insurance we cannot make a living and take care of our obligations."

"This is not an argument of silly doctors quibbling about losing a small percent of their income, this is a problem where doctors

absolutely cannot afford to obtain malpractice insurance in Mississippi."

Chilimigras, Leftwich, and both doctors Koskan urge everyone to contact state legislators, seeking a solution to the problem.

State Commissioner of Insurance George Dale said in a telephone interview from his Jackson office yesterday that he believes the legislature will address the problem in its current session.

"Actually," Dale said, "I'm surprised (the physicians' walk-out) has been this late in coming. I thought it would've already happened by now."

Dale said he had predicted the situation more than a year ago, and shared his feelings with legislators and Gov. Ronnie Musgrove, but that no one took action on it at the time.

While the legislature did address tort reform in its special session near the end of 2002, Dale said, "it's been less than two months since the bill has passed."

He said that isn't time enough for the bill to have much impact on the insurance companies, which must continue to pay on previous claims and must by law maintain enough funds to pay in all pending litigation, even though the companies should win many of those cases.

Dale said that, at least as a temporary stop-gap, the legislature needs to devise some kind of insurance pool - paid for by its participants, the healthcare providers themselves, not the taxpayers.

"This would be a temporary fix to keep our doctors and our hospitals able to practice," he said, until the

U.S. Congress hopefully address the problem on a national level.

"My prediction is that 2003 will be more difficult than 2002," Dale said, "but 2004 will see a resolution to this situation."



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ONLY MINUTES FROM DIAMONDHEAD

Election -- hot races

Continued from Page 1A

Detectives Thomas J. (Tom) Burleson qualified for sheriff Wednesday morning.

Kopf joins two former superintendents of education, Terrell Randolph and Myrna Bourgeois, who will be challenging incumbent superintendent Mike Ladner. Ladner, Bourgeois and Kopf are running in the Democratic primary and Randolph in the Republican primary.

The addition of Kopf for superintendent really makes this an interesting race, because Bourgeois had defeated longtime superintendent Randolph in 1991 in the Democratic primary.

In 1995 Randolph, as a Republican, had defeated Bourgeois in the general election to regain his seat as superintendent of education.

In 1999, Ladner defeated Bourgeois, who served 1992-96 as superintendent in the Democratic primary. Ladner then defeated Randolph in the general election.

In the sheriff's race incumbent Steve Garber faces the challenge of five-term Sheriff Ronnie Peterson, who was edged by Garber in a close race in the 1999 Democratic primary, in addition to Burleson and Bay St. Louis Patrolman Richard (Rick) Fayard. Garber, Peterson and Burleson are Democrats, and Fayard is a Republican.

Incumbent supervisor of district four, Steve Seymour, thus far has Republican Bobby Glover and Democrat Wayne Whitney as challengers.

Lyonne (Jeep) Ladner, supervisor of district one is being challenged by David Yarborough.

District one constable Phillip A. Pavolini is chal-

lenged by Terry Necaise, both are Democrats.

The primary elections will be held on August 5, with August 26 set as the second primary (run-off) date.

The qualifying deadline is March 1, (which was extended from February 28 recently) and that includes, candidates for primary elections in August and Independent candidates whose will be in the November general election.

The list as they qualified include:

• Pamela Thomas Metzler* - circuit clerk.
• Jimmie Ladner, Jr.* - tax-assessor/collector.

• Timothy A. (Tim) Kellar* - chancery clerk.
• Myrna L. Bourgeois* - superintendent of education.

• Steve Seymour* - board of supervisor, district four.
• Jay Cuevas* - board of supervisor, district five.

• Lyonie (Jeep) Ladner Sr.* - board of supervisor, district one.

• Roderick (Rocky) Pullman* - board of supervisor, district two.

• Steve Garber - sheriff*.
• Phillip A. Pavolini* - constable, district one

• Lisa L. Cowand** - board of supervisor, district three.

• Eric Moran, Sr.* - constable, district three.

• James A. (Jay) Lagasse, III* - justice court judge, district two.

• Ray Seal* - constable, district two.

• Ronald A. (Ronnie) Peterson* - sheriff.

• Mike Ladner* - county superintendent of education.

• Norma Stiglet* - coroner (medical examiner).

• Wayne Whitney* - board of supervisor, district four.

• Bobby Glover** - board of supervisor, district four.

• Richard (Rick) Fayard** - sheriff.

• David Yarborough* - board of supervisor, district one.

• Terrell Randolph** - county superintendent of education.

• Terry Necaise* - constable, district one.

• Ernest Taylor* - constable, district two.

• Tommy Carver, Sr.* - justice court judge, district three.

• Ricky Adam* - justice court judge, district one

• David Kopf* - county superintendent of education.

• Thomas J. (Tom) Burleson* - sheriff.

Note: (*)denotes Democratic and (**)denotes Republican.

Lagasse, a former election commissioner is seeking the new justice court judge position in district two

Seal and Taylor are seeking the new position of constable, district two seat.

Following the election, Hancock County will have three constable and three justice court judge positions.

New district lines will take effect before the August election.

For information on qualifying, contact the Circuit Clerk's office at 228-467-5265.



Physician Referral

467-8664

149 Drinkwater Blvd.
Bay St. Louis

Krewe of Kids looking for king & queen candidates

The Krewe of Kids is looking for candidates for king and queen of its annual Mardi Gras parade this year. Any children between the ages of five and 12 are eligible. Send pertinent information to Lisa Cowand, 1005 Dunbar Ave., Bay St. Louis, MS 39520. The krewe's parade is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22, beginning at North Bay Elementary at 11 a.m. No motorized vehicles allowed.

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Obituaries

LAWRENCE ABRAMS SR.
MILDRED ADAMS
RUBY BLAIZE
D. JOYCE BUQUOI
JOHNNY CHAMPINE
GUY COLE
MARY COLE
DELORES DAVIS
CHARLES EVERHART JR.
ARTHUR GRANT
ZELMA LADNER
RICHARD PRIVE
WILLIAM RABELAIS
CLARA STRONG
EMILY WAITS
RODNEY WOODS

LAWRENCE ABRAMS SR.
 Lawrence Abrams Sr., 93, of Diamondhead, died Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, in Slidell, La.

Mr. Abrams was a native of Natchez.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel and Sarah Millstein Abrams.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Schulein Abrams of Diamondhead; son Lawrence Abrams Jr. of Chappaqua, N.Y.; daughter Lynn Jeanette Abrams Berkeley of Chevy Chase, Md.; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services were conducted Wednesday at Natchez City Cemetery, and a memorial service will at 4 p.m. Friday at Diamondhead Community Center.

Laird Funeral Home of Natchez was in charge of arrangements.

MILDRED ADAMS
 Mildred Lucille Adams, 79, of Gulfport, died Thursday, Jan. 16, 2003, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Adams was a native of Pearl River County and a lifelong resident of the Gulf Coast. She was a homemaker, former member of DAV and VFW Auxiliary, and a member of First Baptist Church of Orange Grove.

She was preceded in death by her son, Paul M. Brewer; two brothers, Ed Toney and Wilton Toney; and one sister, Erma Lee Alexander.

Survivors include her husband, Clyde A. Adams of Gulfport; one daughter, Elizabeth Hoskins and her husband Mark of Gulfport; seven sons, Carl Adams and wife Thirrey, Ray Brewer and wife Shelia, Ronnie Brewer and wife Kathy, Dwight Brewer and wife Louise, Aubrey Brewer, Sr. and wife Patsy, all of Gulfport; L.C. Brewer and wife Sherry, and Robert Brewer all of Pass Christian; two step-daughters, Carolyn Payne and husband, Ernie of Gulfport, Gracie Cobb and husband Grady of Carthage; two nieces, Bobbie Straw and Helen Lightell both of Gulfport; 23 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted Sunday at Riemann Memorial Funeral Home in Gulfport. Burial was in Finley Cemetery in Lyman.

RUBY BLAIZE
 Ruby Lee Cross Blaize, 94, of Bay St. Louis, died Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Blaize was a native of Jones County, Miss. and a longtime resident of Bay St. Louis. She was a member of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Osmond Blaize; her parents,

Robert G. and Anette Mabry Cross; and brothers Clyde, Claude, Clint and Clifton Cross.

Survivors include a niece, Gwen McGee of San Antonio, Texas; and three nephews, Peter Altman of Arlington, Texas, Lee Altman of San Antonio, and Hank Altman of Panama.

Interment will be in St. Mary Cemetery in Bay St. Louis at a later date.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

D. JOYCE BUQUOI
 D. Joyce Buquoi, 67, of Bay St. Louis, died Sunday, January 19, 2003, in Gulfport.

D. Joyce Buquoi was a native and lifelong resident of Bay St. Louis. She formerly owned Joyce's Candy Shop in Bay St. Louis. She currently owns Fabian's Ocean Gifts and Joyce's Tropic Casuals in Long Beach. She is the co-owner of the Dairy Queen in Diamondhead. She was a lifelong member of Weight Watchers of America, a member of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis, and a member of the Italian Society in Bay St. Louis.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lucien V. and Edith V. Morreale Pernicario and her husband, Fabian E. Buquoi Jr.

Survivors include her daughter, Joye Hoda and husband Gene of Diamondhead; her brothers, Joe Pernicario of Diamondhead, Jack Pernicario of Bay St. Louis; her sisters, Pearl Dellinger of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and Edie Cuevas of Bay St. Louis; and two grandchildren, Vince Hoda and Ryan Hoda, both of Diamondhead.

Visitation was Tuesday at the 25th Avenue Chapel of Riemann Funeral Home. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday in the funeral home chapel followed by services in Floral Hills Memorial Gardens and Mausoleum in Gulfport.

The family prefers memorial contributions to Memorial Hospital of Gulfport Hospice, P.O. Box 1810, Gulfport, MS 39502.

JOHNNY CHAMPINE
 Johnnie Champine, 93, of Waveland, MS., died Tuesday, January 21, 2003 in Pass Christian, MS.

Mr. Champine was a native of Haineville, Ala. and member of Mt. Chapel Baptist Church in Waveland.

Survivors include one cousin, Mrs. Vera Barnes of Waveland, MS.

Visitation will be Friday, January 24 at Mt. Chapel Baptist Church in Waveland. Funeral services will follow 10 a.m. in Mt. Chapel with Rev. Henry Dunn officiating. Burial will follow in Waveland Cemetery.

Baylous Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

GUY COLE
 Guy A. Cole, 83, of Diamondhead, died Wednesday, January 22, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Arrangements are incomplete at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home.

MARY COLE
 Mary James Williams Cole, 55, of Gulfport, died

Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, in Biloxi.

Mrs. Cole was a native of Canton and a resident of Gulfport for 18 years. She was a member and served as head usher at Grace Temple Baptist Church. She was a teacher's assistant at Gaston Point Elementary School and at D'Iberville Elementary School, and was a 1975 graduate of Jackson State University.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James Williams and Mary Watts Montclair; and her spouse, Mozie Lee Cole.

Survivors include a son, the Rev. Taronta Cole of Gulfport; a daughter, Tamera Cole of Pass Christian; two sisters, Onie Lee Powell of Jackson and Myrtle A. Taylor of Gulfport; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Wednesday at George & Lillian Lockett Memorial Chapel. Burial will be in Biloxi National Cemetery.

DELORES DAVIS
 Delores "Deedy" Davis, 73, of Gulfport, died Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Davis was a lifelong resident of Gulfport, and before retiring she was employed at the White Pillars Restaurant in Biloxi.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Doc Conn, David Conn, Doug Conn and Don Conn; and five sisters, Bea Moore, Mildred Cody, Inez Ferrill, Hilda Mock and Helen Conn.

Survivors include her husband, Rodney A. Davis Jr. of Gulfport; a son, Rodney A. Davis III of Hattiesburg; two daughters, Donna Davis Rippey of Gulfport, Cindy Davis Dubuison of Pass Christian; and four grandchildren.

A memorial service was conducted Wednesday at Riemann Funeral Home Chapel on 25th Avenue in Gulfport. A private burial will be held at Biloxi National Cemetery.

CHARLES EVERHART JR.
 Charles E. Everhart, Jr., 81, of Silver Springs, Fla., died Friday, Jan. 18, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Everhart was a native of Odessa, Mo. and a longtime resident of Silver Springs, Fla. He was of the Lutheran faith and was a veteran of the United States Air Force and a member of the DAV of Ocala, Fla.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Ida Tessman Everhart; and his father, Charles Everhart, Sr.

Survivors include sons Charles E. Everhart, III and Clifton L. Everhart, Sr., both of Bay St. Louis; daughters Sharon Brooks of Clermont, Fla. and Kathy McKenna of Bay St. Louis; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Interment will be private in Biloxi National Cemetery.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

ZELMA LADNER
 Zelma Dorothy Ladner, 74, of Diamondhead, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, in Diamondhead.

Mrs. Ladner was a native of Hancock County and a lifelong resident of the Gulf Coast. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Dedeaux, and was a seamstress and supervisor for 50 years at the MacSmith Garment

Factory in Gulfport and at Movie Star of Poplarville.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Onelia Necaise; two brothers, Elvis Necaise and Ray Necaise; and a sister, Lucille Peterson.

Survivors include her husband, Larry S. Ladner; three sons, Larry Dale Ladner, Darren S. Ladner and Pat Ladner, all of Pass Christian; two daughters, Sharon Hoda of Kiln and Rhonda Ladner of Pass Christian; two brothers, Kenneth Necaise of Gulfport and Hayward Necaise of Kiln; a sister, Betty Joyce Ladner, of Pass Christian; 12 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Monday evening at Dedeaux School. Services were conducted Tuesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Dedeaux. Burial was in St. Joseph Cemetery in Hancock County.

Riemann Funeral Home in Pass Christian was in charge of arrangements.

RICHARD PRIVE
 Richard Gerard Prive, 71, of Gulfport, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, in Gulfport.

Mr. Prive was a native of Newport, Vt. and a longtime resident of the Gulf Coast. He served in the U.S. Air Force and retired after 20 years. He was a maintenance supervisor for Sterling Drugs Co. in Gulfport for 28 years and for Winn-Dixie for more than five years. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Gulfport.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Vital and Alice Algue Prive; an infant daughter, Theresa Lyne Prive; brothers Armand, Raymond and Hector Prive; and a sister, Alberta Lamoureux.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy LaFontaine Prive of Gulfport; children Doris Pugh of Austin Texas, Glenda Sutphen of Castle Rock, CO., Sharon Bradshaw of Wheatland, CA, Donald Prive of Gulfport and Greg Prive of Perkinston; sisters Rose Lamoureux and Jeannette Thomas; brothers Aurthur and Leo Prive; 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Tuesday at Riemann Memorial Funeral Home in Gulfport. Burial was in Lakshore Cemetery.

The family prefers memorials to St. Joseph Catholic Church Building Fund, 12290 DePew Road, Gulfport, MS 39507.

ARTHUR GRANT
 Arthur Gordon Grant, 83, of Pass Christian died Sunday, January 19, 2003, in Pass Christian.

Mr. Grant was born in Hampton, Va. but moved to New Orleans as a small boy. He graduated from Isidore Newman High School and from Tulane University, where he received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1942. After graduating from Tulane, he went to work for Sperry Gyroscope Company where he worked with a team of engineers on the development and installation of gyroscopically controlled gun directors and anti-aircraft gunsights on U.S. Navy warships.

After WWII he went to work for Arthur A. Grant & Son, Inc., in New Orleans where he spent the rest of his professional career working as a marine sur-

vveyor, marine engineer and naval architect until he retired in 1955. During his career he was an active member of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers and several other professional organizations.

He also served as a member of the steering committee that was responsible for the creation of the Department of Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering at the University of New Orleans.

Mr. Grant was an avid yachtsman all of his life and a member of the Pass Christian Yacht Club for over 40 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur A. and Nellie K. Grant.

Survivors include his wife, Martha McCutcheon Grant of Pass Christian; a son, Arthur Gordon Grant Jr. of Metairie, La; two daughters, Judith Destrehan Grant Woodley of

OBITS--PAGE 9A

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467-9031

Obituaries

Madison, MS, and Elaine Pardue Grant Wilkinson of Pass Christian; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family prefers memorial contributions to Trinity Hospice, 1505 LeMoyné Blvd., D'Iberville 39532.

Private services will be held. Riemann Funeral Home in Pass Christian is in charge of arrangements.

WILLIAM RABELAIS

William J. Rabelais, 96, of Kiln, died Sunday, Jan. 19, 2003, in Biloxi.

He was a native of Cocoville, La. and a longtime resident of Kiln, for the past 40 years. He was of the Catholic faith.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leon Rene and Caroline Swift Rabelais.

Survivors include a son, Bertrand A. Rabelais of Houma, La.; a brother, Orville Rabelais of Cottonport, La.; a sister, Leona Rabelais Pollock of Ponchatoula, La.; longtime friend, Lloyd J. Klees of Kiln. Also survived by five grandchildren and ten

great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Tuesday at the Edmond Fahey Funeral Home, Bay St. Louis, followed by a prayer service and burial in Gulf Coast Memorial Cemetery and Mausoleum, Bay St. Louis.

CLARA STRONG

Clara Mae (MawMaw) Murrell Strong, 79, of Biloxi, died Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, in Biloxi.

Mrs. Strong was a native of Biloxi. She was a member of East Howard Baptist Church in Biloxi.

She was preceded in death by her husband, J.W. Strong; her parents, Oscar and Rosa Puz Murrell; eight brothers; two sisters; a grandchild, Jason Arnold; and a great-grandchild, Austin Louviere.

Survivors include her four children, Gary Frank Strong of Biloxi, Nancy Strong Walters of Pass Christian, Karen Kay Strong of Gulfport, and Dennis Ray Strong of D'Iberville; 13 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted Tuesday in Biloxi City Cemetery.

Howard Avenue Chapel of Bradford O'Keefe Funeral Home in Biloxi was in charge of arrangements.

EMILY WAITS

Emily Gusich Waits, 72, of Pass Christian, died Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Mrs. Waits was a native of Nemacolin, Pa., and a longtime resident of Pass Christian. She was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church in Long Beach. She had jobs with the Pennsylvania State Insurance Commission, executive secretary to GEICO, and had administrative positions at DuPont. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank N. Waits.

She is survived by two daughters, Mary Beth Krenek of Niceville, Fla., and Suzanne Gibson of Enterprise, Ala.; a son, Billy Waits of Hattiesburg; and six grandchildren.

Visitation was Monday at St. Thomas Catholic Church

Continued from Page 6A

in Long Beach followed by services in the church and in Roseland Park in Hattiesburg.

The family prefers memorials to the Emily Waits Memorial Fund, c/o Lymphoma Department, M.D. Anderson Cancer Hospital at 1515 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, Texas, 77030.

Bradford O'Keefe Funeral Home in Gulfport was in charge of arrangements.

RODNEY WOODS

Rodney W. Woods, 58, of Gulfport, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, in Gulfport.

Arrangements are incomplete at Rabenhorst Funeral Home in Baton Rouge. Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis was in charge of local arrangements.



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Harrison County Library System Director Robert Lipscomb, left; Sheila Peters, head librarian of the Pass Christian Library; and Harrison County Supervisor Marlin Ladner.

Pass Library receives \$6K donation

THE SEA COAST ECHO

In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Pass Christian Library building, Harrison County Supervisor Marlin Ladner presented a check in the amount of \$6,000 to Robert Lipscomb, director of the Harrison County Library System, and Sheila Peters, head librarian of Pass Christian Library.

This generous donation will kick off a campaign to raise funds to purchase and install new carpeting in the library. The Pass Christian Library has been a member of the Harrison County Library System since 1976.

Several fundraisers are being planned throughout the year to raise the \$13,000 needed to purchase and install new carpet. The carpet in the library is the original carpet installed when the building was dedicated in June of 1973.

"With approximately 73,000 visitors to the library in the year 2002 alone, the old carpet is getting rather bare. It has served us well, but it is definitely time for a change," said Peters.

As part of the effort to refurbish the Pass Christian Library, a new circulation desk was installed just this past week. The custom-designed desk was built and installed by Library Interiors, Inc., of Metairie. This purchase was made possible by the generosity of the Pass Christian Friends of the Library group.

The new desk and the establishment of the re-carpeting fund would not have been possible without the dedication and enthusiasm of Sally James and the library staff. Mrs. James, children's librarian, has been acting head librarian during the time that plans were made for the new desk

and the re-carpeting project.

The library staff is to be commended for the excellent, friendly service they have given and continue to give to the community of Pass Christian and the people of Harrison County.

Sheila Peters became head librarian January 2 after serving as children's librarian for the Biloxi Public Library for a year. She has been a professional librarian for 14 years, earning her master's in library and information science from Louisiana State University.

For more information regarding the campaign for new carpet, call her at 228-452-4596 or e-mail her at S.peters@harrison.lib.ms.us

You may send donations to the carpet fund to 111 Hiern Ave., Pass Christian, MS 39571.

Sister Bertoli art workshop at North Bay

Sister Mary Bertoli, formerly of Greenville, Miss., will be conducting two tissue paper art collage workshops in her style inspired by the spirit of the people in the Delta.

Two sessions will be open to adults at North Bay Elementary on Monday, January 27 and Tuesday, January 28, from 6-9 p.m.

The workshops, hosted by the North Bay Elementary PTO, are free to North Bay teachers, \$10 for parents of North Bay students, and \$20 for the general public.

All supplies are included, and a light meal will be pro-

vided.

No prior art training is required, just a sense of adventure and an openness to the possibilities of your own creativity.

Original works by Sister Bertoli may be available for sale or commission. All proceeds go to the Holy Name Sisters' Ministry Fund which benefits the economically poor. For information or to reserve a space, contact Dale Pohl at 467-6908.

Responses from those who have taken this workshop: Out of the simple items of tissue paper and glue one feels a sense of self-

worth after finishing a picture. Lori Miller (School Psychologist)

I just started pasting tissue paper on mounting board, and before I knew it, something actually attractive started to take shape. I was amazed what came out of me. Tom Lewis (Computer Specialist)

All week my co-workers raved about what a great time they had. Several even brought their art to work. It really opened people up to share, laugh, and enjoy each other. It was great. Carol Lee Moore (Special Ed Teacher)

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BUSINESS NEWS

Salute to Business, industry awards gala set for April 25

Hancock Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Hancock County Port & Harbor Commission and the Hancock County Tourism Development Bureau will host an Annual Salute to Business & Industry Awards Gala on Friday, April 25 at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Bay Tower Hotel in the Cypress Ballroom.

The evening will begin at 6pm with a cocktail reception and business-to-business networking. Later, guests will enjoy a spectacular dinner served by the professional staff of Casino Magic. Entertainment and

recognition of key business and industry leaders will top off the gala evening. During this event, the Chamber will recognize Hancock County's Citizen of the Year.

The Citizen of the Year Award recognizes individuals whose contributions to commerce and the community help make Hancock County prosperous and progressive.

To submit a nomination, please provide the following information:

* A detailed description of the nominee's contributions to the community and the impact of those con-

tributions;

* Examples of leadership skills and a commitment to improving the quality of life for Hancock County;

* A color photo of the nominee and the name, address and phone number of the nominator.

Nominations can be delivered or mailed to the Hancock Chamber Office or emailed to: tish@hancockchamber.org.

The deadline to submit nominations is: February 25 at 5pm. For more information, contact the Hancock Chamber at 467-9048.

How to start a small business

By Janita R. Stewart
District Director
Mississippi District
Office

U.S. Small Business Administration

Starting and managing a business takes motivation, desire and talent. It also takes research and planning.

Like a chess game, success in business starts with decisive and correct opening moves. And although initial mistakes are not fatal, it takes skill, discipline and hard work to regain the advantage.

To increase your chance for success, take the time up front to explore and evaluate your business and personal goals. Then use this information to build a com-

prehensive and well thought-out plan that will help you reach these goals.

The process of developing a plan will help you think through some important issues that you may not have considered yet.

Your plan will become a valuable tool as you set out to raise money for your business. It should also provide milestones to gauge your success.

Getting Started

1. Before starting out, list your reasons for wanting to go into business. Some of the most common reasons for starting a business are:

- You want to be your own boss.
- You want financial independence.
- You want creative freedom.
- You want to fully use your skills and knowledge.

2. Next you need to determine what business is "right for you." Ask yourself these questions:

- What do I like to do with my time?
- What technical skills have I learned or developed?
- What do others say I am good at?
- Will I have the support of my family?
- How much time do I have to run a successful business?
- Do I have any hobbies or interests that are marketable?

3. Then you should identify the niche your business will fill. Conduct the necessary research to answer these questions:

What business am I interested in starting? What

services or products will I sell? Is my idea practical, and will it fill a need? What is my competition? What is my business's advantage over existing firms? Can I deliver a better quality service? Can I create a demand for my business?

4. The final step before developing your plan is the pre-business checklist. You should answer these questions:

- What skills and experience do I bring to the business?
- What will be my legal structure?
- How will my company's business records be maintained?
- What insurance coverage will be needed?
- What equipment or supplies will I need?
- How will I compensate myself?
- What are my resources?
- What financing will I need?
- Where will my business be located?
- What will I name my business?

Once you have completed your plan, review it with a friend or business associate. When you feel comfortable with the content and structure, make an appointment to review and discuss it with your banker. The plan is a flexible document that should change as your business grows.

Treasure Bay seeks to relocate casino

BILOXI, Miss. (AP) — Treasure Bay Casino has asked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for permission to dredge five acres from the Mississippi Sound to create a more secure location for the gambling barge and improve casino operations.

The Biloxi casino in September suffered millions in damages and lost revenue from Tropical Storm Isidore.

The proposal would move the casino barge slightly east. A four-story parking garage would be built behind the casino and a 21,600-square-foot building housing a buffet, gift shop and office space would be just east of the barge.

The move and new construction would cost \$20

million and be completed by Christmas.

By 2005, Treasure Bay plans to spend an additional \$60 million building a 250-room hotel, marina and boardwalk on the new site, said Bernie Burkholder, the casino's president and chief executive officer.

Burkholder said the move is needed to enhance Treasure Bay's business and provide a buffer for tropical storms and hurricanes.

The damage from Tropical Storm Isidore and Hurricane Lili is still being repaired, Burkholder said, and won't be finished for three more weeks.

"We've proven to be the most exposed and most vulnerable casino to tropical

storms," Burkholder said. "We were shut down for two weeks by Hurricane Georges and then shut down by Tropical Storm Isidore and Hurricane Lili. We can't continue to take these kinds of hits every two, three or four years."

Along with providing a concrete barrier from storms, the parking garage would allow customers to park closer to the casino.

Because the Treasure Bay barge would go into an area that once was a marina.

Treasure Bay is the second casino in recent months to look at moving its barge.

Boomtown Biloxi wants to move the Back Bay barge about 300 yards to the west, about twice as far as

Treasure Bay's proposed move. But Treasure Bay would dredge twice as much material as Boomtown, because of the basin that would be carved out for the barge.

Boomtown's move has been opposed by lawyers who say the casino wants to avoid paying rent to landlord Raphael Skrmetta.

Burkholder said there have been negotiations with representatives for the Mladinich family, which owns the property Treasure Bay is on.

"All parties are agreeable to working something out," Burkholder said.

Life, Health and Accident Companies Synopsis of the Annual Statement as of December 31, 2001 of Empire General Life Insurance Corporation P.O. Box 319 Shawnee Mission Kansas 66201	
Assets	
Bonds	\$ 62,622,660
Stocks	0
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	0
Real Estate	0
Policy Loans and Premium Notes	179,529
Cash on Hand and Short-Term Investments	10,005,825
Uncollected and Deferred Premiums	35,458,819
Other Admitted Assets	5,728,165
Separate Account Assets	0
Total Assets	\$ 113,995,199
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	
Aggregate Reserve for Life and AH Policies	\$ 54,847,378
Life and AH Policy and Contract Claims	1,260,464
All Other Liabilities	18,049,547
Separate Account Liabilities	0
Total Liabilities	\$ 74,157,389
Capital Stock	2,500,000
Surplus Funds	17,337,811
Total Capital and Surplus	\$ 39,837,811
Total Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	\$ 113,995,199
Mississippi Department of Insurance I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the above-named company filed with the Mississippi Insurance Department showing the condition of said company on December 31, 2001 <i>George Del</i> Commissioner of Insurance 94281 8100169 L See Court Side	

Life, Health and Accident Companies Synopsis of the Annual Statement as of December 31, 2001 of II. Annuity and Insurance Company P.O. Box 7149 Indianapolis Indiana 46207-7149	
Assets	
Bonds	\$ 2,221,872,071
Stocks	11,863,290
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	22,780,645
Real Estate	0
Policy Loans and Premium Notes	915,257
Cash on Hand and Short-Term Investments	49,673,477
Uncollected and Deferred Premiums	0
Other Admitted Assets	29,220,254
Separate Account Assets	328,385,244
Total Assets	\$ 2,664,716,238
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	
Aggregate Reserve for Life and AH Policies	\$ 2,217,277,817
Life and AH Policy and Contract Claims	2,140,235
All Other Liabilities	84,892,952
Separate Account Liabilities	328,385,244
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,632,696,247
Capital Stock	2,500,000
Surplus Funds	29,513,971
Total Capital and Surplus	\$ 32,013,971
Total Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	\$ 2,664,710,218
Mississippi Department of Insurance I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the above-named company filed with the Mississippi Insurance Department showing the condition of said company on December 31, 2001 <i>George Del</i> Commissioner of Insurance 71692 8100160 L See Court Side	

Life, Health and Accident Companies Synopsis of the Annual Statement as of December 31, 2001 of Amica Life Insurance Company Post Office Box 6008 Providence Rhode Island 02940-6008	
Assets	
Bonds	\$ 532,547,861
Stocks	20,520,980
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	0
Real Estate	0
Policy Loans and Premium Notes	4,024,237
Cash on Hand and Short-Term Investments	16,090,088
Uncollected and Deferred Premiums	14,826,908
Other Admitted Assets	11,900,935
Separate Account Assets	0
Total Assets	\$ 599,911,069
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	
Aggregate Reserve for Life and AH Policies	\$ 346,449,794
Life and AH Policy and Contract Claims	1,233,065
All Other Liabilities	159,384,888
Separate Account Liabilities	0
Total Liabilities	\$ 507,067,747
Capital Stock	5,000,000
Surplus Funds	87,843,262
Total Capital and Surplus	\$ 92,843,262
Total Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	\$ 599,911,009
Mississippi Department of Insurance I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the above-named company filed with the Mississippi Insurance Department showing the condition of said company on December 31, 2001 <i>George Del</i> Commissioner of Insurance 72322 8100162 L See Court Side	

Life, Health and Accident Companies Synopsis of the Annual Statement as of December 31, 2001 of Cova Financial Services Life Insurance Company One Tower Lane - Suite 2000 Oakbrook Terrace Illinois 60181-4644	
Assets	
Bonds	\$ 1,535,683,939
Stocks	45,556,995
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	324,142,424
Real Estate	0
Policy Loans and Premium Notes	26,487,474
Cash on Hand and Short-Term Investments	161,122,691
Uncollected and Deferred Premiums	86,141
Other Admitted Assets	33,337,616
Separate Account Assets	2,616,140,020
Total Assets	\$ 4,752,567,360
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	
Aggregate Reserve for Life and AH Policies	\$ 1,863,599,084
Life and AH Policy and Contract Claims	7,689,831
All Other Liabilities	102,523,299
Separate Account Liabilities	2,626,095,490
Total Liabilities	\$ 4,599,907,704
Capital Stock	5,798,872
Surplus Funds	152,848,703
Total Capital and Surplus	\$ 158,647,575
Total Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	\$ 4,758,555,279
Mississippi Department of Insurance I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the above-named company filed with the Mississippi Insurance Department showing the condition of said company on December 31, 2001 <i>George Del</i> Commissioner of Insurance 93313 8100161 L See Court Side	

Life, Health and Accident Companies Synopsis of the Annual Statement as of December 31, 2001 of Annuity Investors Life Insurance Company P.O. Box 5620 Cincinnati Ohio 45291	
Assets	
Bonds	\$ 352,476,106
Stocks	487,500
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	0
Real Estate	0
Policy Loans and Premium Notes	7,232,127
Cash on Hand and Short-Term Investments	4,750,405
Uncollected and Deferred Premiums	0
Other Admitted Assets	5,786,323
Separate Account Assets	529,519,584
Total Assets	\$ 966,222,846
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	
Aggregate Reserve for Life and AH Policies	\$ 335,091,201
Life and AH Policy and Contract Claims	2,500,422
All Other Liabilities	6,619,845
Separate Account Liabilities	529,519,584
Total Liabilities	\$ 873,881,052
Capital Stock	2,500,000
Surplus Funds	24,020,994
Total Capital and Surplus	\$ 26,520,994
Total Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	\$ 900,402,046
Mississippi Department of Insurance I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the above-named company filed with the Mississippi Insurance Department showing the condition of said company on December 31, 2001 <i>George Del</i> Commissioner of Insurance 93461 8100178 L See Court Side	

Life, Health and Accident Companies Synopsis of the Annual Statement as of December 31, 2001 of Delta Dental Insurance Company 180 First Street San Francisco California 94105	
Assets	
Bonds	\$ 28,573,485
Stocks	1,633,190
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	0
Real Estate	0
Policy Loans and Premium Notes	0
Cash on Hand and Short-Term Investments	10,049,039
Uncollected and Deferred Premiums	2,405,143
Other Admitted Assets	5,659,821
Separate Account Assets	0
Total Assets	\$ 48,318,678
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	
Aggregate Reserve for Life and AH Policies	\$ 178,839
Life and AH Policy and Contract Claims	6,792,415
All Other Liabilities	17,108,405
Separate Account Liabilities	0
Total Liabilities	\$ 24,079,659
Capital Stock	12,146,579
Surplus Funds	12,094,440
Total Capital and Surplus	\$ 24,241,019
Total Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	\$ 48,320,678
Mississippi Department of Insurance I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the above-named company filed with the Mississippi Insurance Department showing the condition of said company on December 31, 2001 <i>George Del</i> Commissioner of Insurance 81796 8100163 L See Court Side	

BUSINESS NEWS

Taylor angry with colleagues over loss of Mississippi jobs

QUITMAN, Miss. (AP) — U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor said congressional colleagues who voted for the North American Free Trade Agreement should come to Clarke County to see what the pact has done to a local economy.

NAFTA, which took effect in 1994, eliminates trade barriers between America, Mexico and Canada gradually over 15 years. There have been widespread dis-

agreements over which nations have benefited, or been hurt, the most.

Burlington Industries closed its cotton mill, and its sister denim plant near Stonewall last summer, a move that left more than 800 workers without a job and Stonewall without its only industry.

Last December, Hankins Lumber Co. closed its Clarke County sawmill and sent home more than 100

workers.

Clarke County's unemployment rate was among the highest in the state in 2002.

Taylor, D-Miss., said NAFTA and the most favored nation status for China had contributed to hundreds of job losses in Mississippi and thousands nationwide.

Taylor said he gets angry with his congressional colleagues who voted for the bills.

"They hurt a lot of good people and they hurt our country," Taylor said. "I'm sure some of them just made a mistake. I think some of them knew better. And those are the ones I'm really mad at (those who) looked out for the big multinational corporations at the expense of average Mississippians and average citizens, even from their own states."

Taylor, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said a possibility for Clarke County is for the community to recruit companies that do business with the military.

That, he said, could ease the sting.

Taylor, 49, represents South Mississippi and its heavily populated Gulf Coast cities in Mississippi's new 4th Congressional District. In redistricting, Taylor picked up Clarke County, parts of Jasper County and most of Jones County last year.

Last week, Taylor held town meetings in Quitman and Heidelberg and opened a new office in Laurel.

Tony Fleming, president of the Clarke County Board of Supervisors, agreed NAFTA damaged the county and that the county must gear up for a recovery effort.

"What if these folks were working? They could be contributing instead of being on the unemployment rolls, which the government has to pick up the tab for," said Fleming.

Supervisor Ralph Boykin said some positive leads are in the works in Clarke County.

"It's not going to come back as fast as it left, I can tell you that," he said. "It won't be any 700 to 800 employees. We're going to have to concentrate on the 40, the 50 and the 100."

\$13.4 million could be lost in Southern states says SOS

Secretary of State Eric Clark has issued a cease and desist order prohibiting David H. Gwaltney of Germantown, Tennessee from selling unregistered securities in Mississippi.

Gwaltney and Allstate Financial Corporation are believed to have sold at least \$13.4 million worth of unregistered promissory notes primarily in Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, and other Southern states. 18 Mississippi investors in Alcorn, DeSoto, Marshall, Panola, Tippah, and Washington counties are believed to have lost more than \$2 million.

"Promissory notes are notoriously risky investments for small investors," Clark said. "This order puts a stop to Mr. Gwaltney's illegal activity in Mississippi and allows us to proceed with our investigation to see if any other laws have been broken. Promissory notes

have been a problem for state and federal regulators for years and millions of people have lost millions of dollars. Anyone considering purchasing or offering these notes should contact the Secretary of State's Office first."

Gwaltney is a licensed insurance agent representing Allstate Financial Corporation. Although they have similar names, Gwaltney's company has no connection with the well-known Allstate Insurance Company ("You're in good hands with Allstate"). Allstate Financial Corporation filed for bankruptcy in Memphis in September 2002. Federal authorities in Tennessee are also investigating the case.

Promissory notes are written promises committing the maker to pay the payee a specified sum of money either on demand or at a fixed future date, with or without interest. They are often sold by independent life insurance agents -- such as Gwaltney -- not licensed by the Secretary of State's Office as securities brokers. Under Mississippi law, securities such as promissory notes must be registered with the Secretary of State's Office.

In one case leading up to the Gwaltney order, Secretary of State investigators met with a 70-year old Greenville woman -- a retired nurse -- who lost her life savings of more than \$100,000 and was forced to sell her house and return to work. Other Mississippi investors were promised a 15 percent return in nine months. They lost everything.

The Secretary of State's Office may impose an administrative penalty of up to \$25,000 per violation of Mississippi securities laws. Gwaltney may request an administrative hearing. Criminal charges may also be forthcoming, Clark said.

Clark urged Mississippians with questions about promissory note investments to contact the Secretary of State's Office (tel. 800-804-6364) to confirm that the notes are properly registered or legally exempt from registration.

For more information on promissory notes, also see <<http://www.sec.gov/investor/pubs/promise.htm>>.

D'head group meets today

The Diamondhead Business & Professional Association will meet this morning at 8 a.m. at the Diamondhead Country Club. The guest speaker will be Bobbie Kent, Chief Master Sergeant, U.S.A.F. (retired). His topic is, "Name Recognition and Recall." After hearing his program, you will have learned how to remember the names of your customers and new acquaintances.

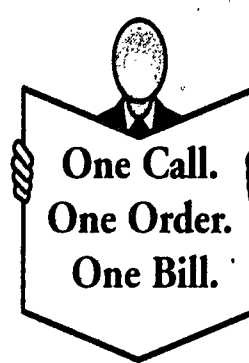
The group's After Hours is also set today from 5-7:00 p.m. and will be hosted by "Bigg E's Bar & Grill." (Across the parking lot at the Ramada Inn in Diamondhead).

Also, the DBPA site is being updated. Be sure to check your information for accuracy. Those companies with existing websites and wanting to be linked from the DBPA Web Site, please be sure to contact the webmaster. [HTTP://WWW.DBPA.ORG](http://WWW.DBPA.ORG).

Tourism conference scheduled in Bay

The Governor's Conference on Tourism will be held at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis January 28-31 and is hosted by the Mississippi Tourism Association (MTA).

The conference theme is the Voices and Faces of Tourism, emphasizing the vital role that tourism professionals play in the growth and development of this important industry. For details, call the MTA office at 888-812-6738.



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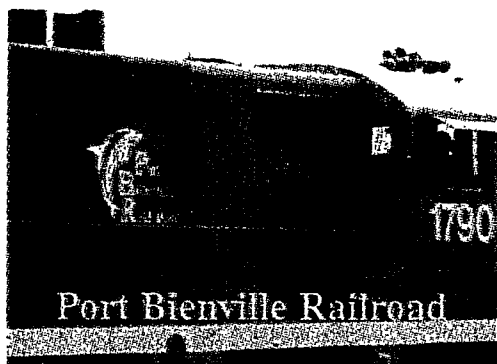
Hancock County Port & Harbor Commission

Who We Are

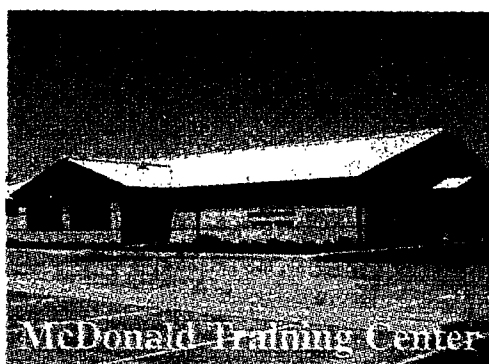
Established in 1962, the Commission -- under the guidance of the Board of Supervisors-- is the economic development organization for the County, and operates the 3,600-acre Port Bienville Industrial Park and the Stennis International Airport and Technology Park.

What We Do

The goal of the Commission is to promote, develop, construct, maintain and operate harbors, seaports and industrial parks and develop environmentally responsible commercial, industrial and manufacturing enterprises for the encouragement of employment within the boundaries of Hancock County, Mississippi.



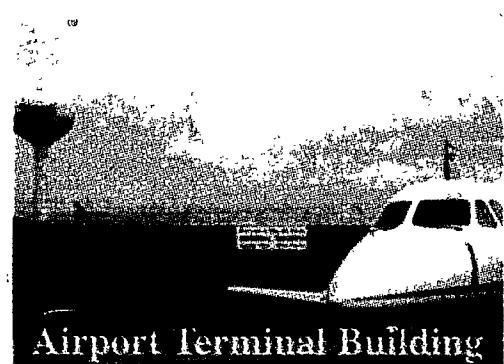
Port Bienville Railroad



McDonald Training Center



Emergency Services



Airport Terminal Building



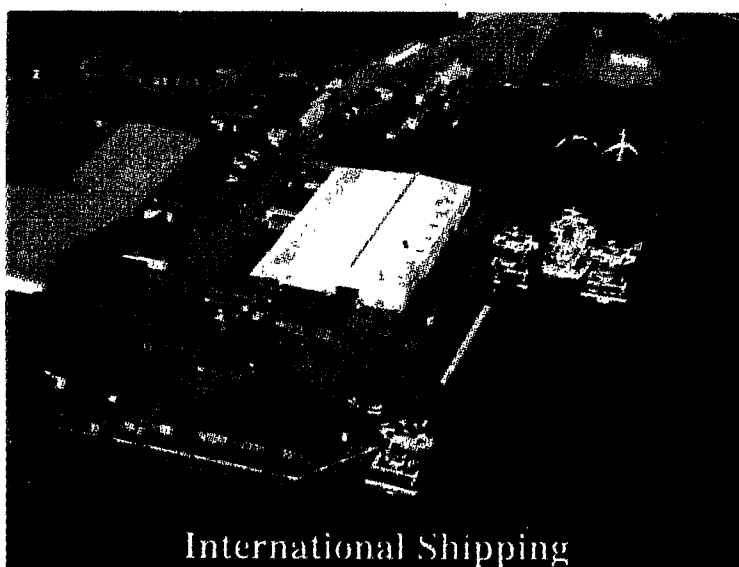
Hancock Medical Center

Where We've Been

Since 1996, we have assisted 13 projects to expand or locate in the County, bringing over 1,250 new jobs and \$656,000,000 in new investment. This year, we have three new companies coming to the county, creating 90 new, high-wage jobs.

Where We're Going

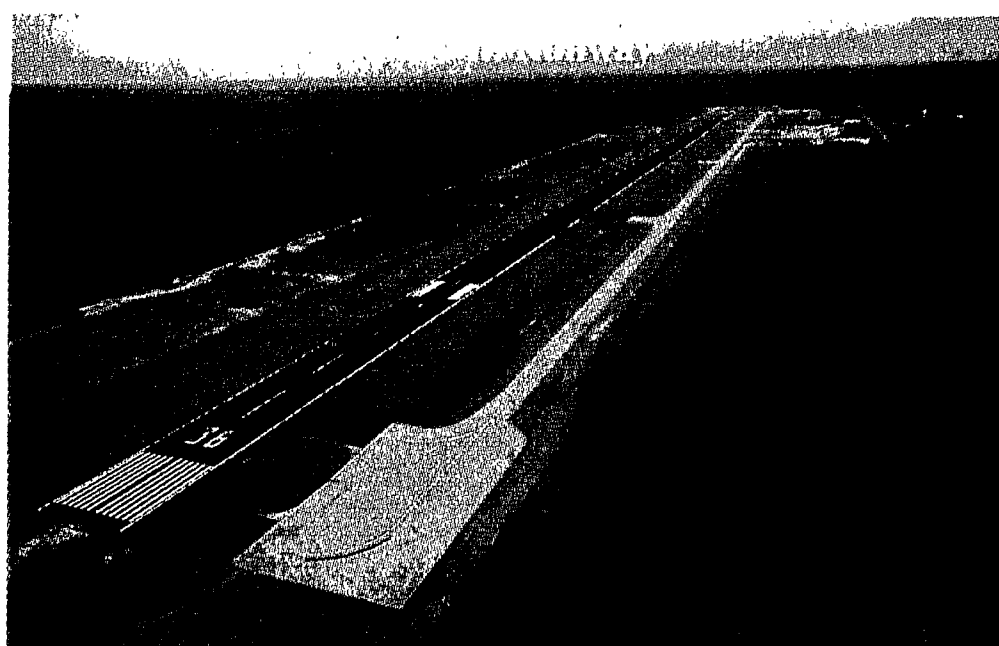
In order to increase our County's competitive edge, in the next year we will:



International Shipping

Port Bienville

- Rehabilitate the ship turning basin bulkhead
- Complete 5,000' of new railroad track for storage of Park customers' rail cars
- Build an Intermodal Cargo Transfer Facility
- Complete a Park-wide drainage study
- Begin a Park-wide erosion control project
- Upgrade sewer lift stations
- Refurbish docks and wharves at the main terminal
- Undertake three dredging projects
- Up-grade 4 miles of Park roads and over 1 mile of existing railroad
- Total Capital Investment \$ 4,717,000



Stennis International Airport

- Activate New Instrument Landing System (ILS)
- Install New Approach Lighting System
- Expand the Aircraft Apron
- Complete and implement an Air Cargo Marketing Plan
- Renovate existing hangar and office building
- Create a storm water retention basin
- Acquire additional land for expansion
- Construct a new office building for multiple tenants
- Total Capital Investment \$ 5,850,000

In the past year, The Commission has secured over \$8.65 million in grants and low interest loans to make improvements at Port Bienville and Stennis Airport.

All Commission loan payments and operating expenses are paid from fees generated at our Park and Airport—no county taxes are used.

We wish to thank the Board of Supervisors for their continuing support.

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COMMUNITY

pg 1B

Winter's murder: Killing in cold sap



THE PAGE FILES
BY STAN PACE
Extension Agent

By Stan Pace
County Extension Agent

Is it dead? Will it come back? Those questions are on everyone's mind as they examine the plants in the landscape after very low temperatures last week and predicted for this week.

Temperatures reached the single digits in north Mississippi and well below freezing even on the Gulf Coast. There is cause for concern, but the best advice is very simple, just wait.

Unless you have a social event planned for early spring there is no rush to replace those early bloomers. It is likely that daffodils, crocus, and hyacinth plants were damaged.

Some had already emerged before the cold arrived, and those will probably not produce any blooms this year. Unless you want to permanently replace them in the landscape, the best thing to do is let the leaves grow this year and plan on a more beautiful 2004.

You can fill the hole in your colorscape with a low growing annual, but be sure the leaves of the bulbs are tall enough to receive sunlight.

Woody ornamentals won't be harmed by waiting either. Certainly, examine the trunk for bark splitting or discoloration. If the bark is damaged over halfway around the trunk, you may be looking at replacing the plant, but if you allow the plant to grow through the spring, you will have a better idea of the actual extent of the damage.

Do tip pruning now to remove obviously dead twigs, but save heavy pruning until next month. Fruit trees and bushes are always the most difficult things to assess after a freeze.

Time may be on our side this year. Hopefully most buds were still dormant, and this early freeze will not have damaged the fruit buds.

Cut into a few buds and notice the interior color. White is good, green is good, brown and black are not good.

Check the trunk for bark splitting, but fruit trees shouldn't be as susceptible as some of our popular woody ornamentals. Black berries should be in good shape.

Strawberries will probably lose blooms, but the plant itself should be in good shape if proper freeze protection was done. Check strawberry crowns for live tissue and apply a fungicide to protect the weakened plant.

PACE--PAGE 4B

Picking ... a good career



Kill-native and self-taught musician Shea Michael Ladner has just released his new CD, *Back to My Roots* - which he says encompasses soul, blues and "lagniappe" - and will soon perform two local concerts. Part of the proceeds are earmarked to help find a cure for cystic fibrosis.

Ladner gets 'Back to Roots,' gives back to the community

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Mississippi soul, Texas blues and a little bit of Louisiana lagniappe best describes his musical style ... it

has a little something for everyone, both young and old, says 27-year-old Shea Michael Ladner. A young man already seriously into life in spite of his young years, Ladner lives with his wife DeeDee (one of his biggest supporters, he says), son Brendan Michael and daughter Brooklynn Lee in Bay St. Louis.

Ladner recently completed the recording his first CD, *Back To My Roots*, at The Audio Lab in Bay St. Louis. The production will be officially released at a bash at the

Hancock County Civic Center tomorrow night. The event begins at 6 p.m., with music beginning at 8 p.m.

Ladner, who was born on Keesler Air Force Base, where his father retired as a Chief Master Sgt. and Senior Enlistment Advisor is the son of Mike and Gayle Ladner of Necaise Crossing.

A self-taught maker of music who has never had a lesson, he plays by ear. He also writes his own lyrics, and nine out of ten tunes on the new CD, he wrote. Ladner decided to learn the guitar when he went off to college at Old Miss in 1995, he said, when his roommate Dusty Anderson, got a guitar.

"It wasn't a very good guitar, heavy, and hard to play and at first I got frustrated," he said. "But when Dusty began to play I gave it



another try. I was hooked."

Ladner called his Dad and asked to borrow a hundred dollars to get a guitar of his own. An electric one.

"My dad always says that he sent me off to college to get an education and instead I came home with a guitar on my back," Ladner said.

The lyrics came later.

"It all started with me writing poetry," Ladner said. "I have always had a knack for writing and when I learned how to play guitar I just put it all together and there you have it ... music."

"My music is a look into my soul, tears and heartaches and happiness too. I try to write from experience."

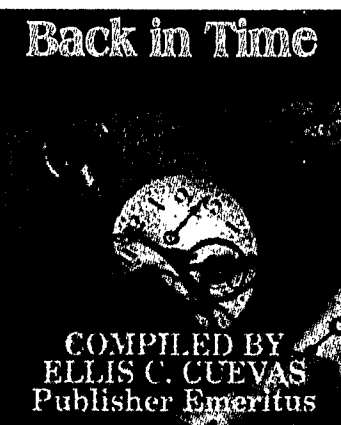
LADNER--PAGE 4B

1963: Fall-out shelters abound as war nears

TEN YEARS AGO

January 21, 1993 - Residents of Bay St. Louis will soon follow Diamondhead's lead in the reduction of solid waste through recycling. The Bay St. Louis City Council unanimously approved a six-month contract Tuesday, with the city, Gulf Coast Recycling and Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc. Mayor Eddie Favre reported the voluntary program will be offered to every house, small business and apartment within the city.

- Jerry Fisher and the Music Company, the popular house band at Dock of



the Bay, is enjoying success with the release of its first recording, "In an' Outta Da Blues." Tape recording and compact disc sales have topped 2,500 since the November release.

Members of the band include Fisher as vocalist, keyboard player Derrell Brown, guitarist Johnny Hozey, bass player Eric Watkins and drummer Harrell Bosarge.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

January 16, 1983 - A Port Bienville Industrial Park firm fears hunters stalking prey near the company's property lines present a 'serious and potentially dangerous situation.' A letter from Paul Vegas of Borg-Warner Chemical's explaining the situation was read to the Hancock County Board of Supervisors at its Friday

morning meeting by Walter Gex, board attorney. Vegas states in the letter it is 'unnerving' to have deer and rabbit hunters along property lines because a stray bullet could injure an employee or damage equipment possibly causing a chemical leak.

- The Waveland Public Library, closed since August for renovation, will open to the public on Tuesday, according to Prima Wusnack, Hancock County Library director. "Although all of the furniture has not arrived, we will be able to begin providing library and informational services on the 18th," Wusnack said.

FORTY YEARS AGO

January 17, 1963 - First Fall-out Shelter. Bay St. Louis Postmaster Andy Becker, (photo), views sign on Bay St. Louis' post office as the first fall-out shelter officially designated by the civil defense. Several other buildings are to get their markings in the near future since survey of structures has been completed.

- The hike in the county acreage assessment, approved by the Board of Supervisors on a 3-2 vote, was revised this week to a \$8 and \$12 formula by the same margin. Beat 2

TIME--PAGE 4B

The Sea Coast Echo

SPORTS

Rocks roll against Vancleave; Lady Tigers crush Gators

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The #3-ranked St. Stanislaus (22-2, 8-0) ran past the Vancleave Bulldogs 88-30 in Division 8 Class 4A action Tuesday night in Bay St. Louis.

All those who played for the Rocks scored in the contest. SSC head coach Jay Ladner commented, "I think our players did a good job of taking control of the game early."

"It allowed us to work on some things that we don't normally get a chance to work on such as different defensive sets. I thought Vancleave was outmanned in the game. I was very proud of the fact that everyone who played got a chance to score. We finished with 23 assists as a team which showed very unselfish play by the entire team. It showed outstanding team

play. It gets tougher each time we play. We have D'Iberville coming in on Thursday and we follow that game up with a perennial state contender Stone County in the Hoops Fest on Friday."

The Bulldogs got to within three points 14-11 with 1:57 left in the first period on two free throws by Vince Alford.

After that, the Rocks held Vancleave scoreless until the 2:14 mark of the second period. During that time, the Rocks went on a 33-0 run to seal the game. During the run, Darius Acker scored 12 points while Mario Faranda added 11 points including two thunderous one-hand flushes.

The Rocks held a commanding 53-15 lead at half-time. Faranda finished with 24 points and 8 rebounds.

Acker tallied 12 points and 6 steals while Gabe Willis added 14 points, 5 assists and 4 steals. Philman Ladner came off the bench to score 8 points for SSC. Vince Alford led Vancleave with 10 points.

In earlier action, the #1-

ranked Bay High Lady Tigers disposed of the Lady Gators of Gautier 80-36 on Friday, January 17. Kendra Reed led the way with 24 points followed by Carmen Labat with 19 points and Felicia Thomas with 13 points.

The Tigers of Bay High fell to Gautier 71-56 in boys action. Marquez Singleton and George Easley each scored 15 points to lead Bay High. Lorenzo Lewis added 13 points in the game.

Some upcoming games during the week will

between St. Stanislaus against D'Iberville on Thursday, January 23. The Hoops Fest will feature SSC and Hancock in action on January 24-25. The Hawks will also hit the road on Friday, January 24, against Oak Grove in Hattiesburg.

Bay girls looking to clinch playoff spot

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Bay High Lady Tigers beat the visiting Pearl River Central Lady Blue Devils 4-1 Tuesday in high school soccer. Kayleigh Davis, Whitney Thomas, Hannah Johnson and Lindsey Richardson all scored for Bay High. Johnson and Brittany Strong had assists as Bay High improved its record to 8-6 overall and 6-3 in division play.

The Lady Tigers are in second place in the division and can clinch a playoff spot with a win Friday night in Picayune against the Lady Maroon Tide in the regular season final game.

Last Friday, the Lady Tigers defeated the Pass Christian Lady Pirates 4-1. Hannah Johnson, Tori Lansaw, Whitney Thomas and Samantha Billingsley

all scored goals for Bay High.

Bay Dixie Fastpitch Softball League meets for registration, World Series information

The Bay Dixie Fastpitch Softball League will have a general information meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Mississippi Power building. Board members will answer ques-

tions on registration dates & times, costs and other information. A representative for the 2003 Ponytail World Series will give general info. Registration & coaches applications.

Spotlight On Dining 2003
Long Beach Lookout

GREAT GRILLED FISH WITH A VIEW Fresh seafood and gorgeous views of the Mississippi Sound are just two of the fine points that make dining at Long Beach Lookout a great place for a family lunch or romantic dinner. The restaurant, which opened six months ago, sits high atop piers in the former location of the Fish n' Bones restaurant at the Long Beach Harbor. Everything about the light and airy restaurant is nautical, from the life-preserver logo to the crisp blue table linens with white toppers. But nothing shouts the sea more than the extensive menu featuring great fresh grilled fish and shellfish.

The restaurant is owned by Rob Stinson, who worked previously operating Ristorante Carmelo in New Orleans, and chain restaurants such as Planet Hollywood and Semolina. Stinson has moved his family to Long Beach and was just recently slated to be the upcoming President of the Rotary Club of Long Beach next year and sits on the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce.

The Lookout offers several appetizers that, when paired make a fine lunch or dinner. The red green tomatoes topped with a basil cream shrimp sauce are delicious. Served with the w Orleans-style BBQ shrimp appetizer makes a delicious meal. The new Sesame Soy Seared Tuna appetizer was a personal favorite appetizer but the stuffed portabella mushrooms served with a delicious lump crabmeat dressing was the house favorite.

Light fresh grilled seafood is the favorite of customers on the Gulf Coast. The stuffed Amberjack and Blackened Amberjack have been the most popular with the customers. Stinson buys his seafood from Louisiana Seafood Exchange. Manager Denis Trouchet says "We get fresh fish five days a week and it never sees a freezer. Other grilled seafood offerings are the Salmon Dijon, Tuna Bordelaise, and Salmon with tomato pesto pasta. Pasta dishes are greatly enjoyed, especially the Cajun Creole pasta, which has sautéed andouille sausage, crawfish, shrimp, portabella mushrooms in a spicy Cajun cream sauce. The other favorite is the Shrimp Fra Diavolo Linguine, which is an Italian favorite from Stinson's past. Large Gulf shrimp sautéed with garlic, crushed red pepper, Valarosa tomatoes, basil and extra virgin olive oil.

Steaks are absolutely the best surprise of all. The Buckhead ribeye, whether blackened or simply grilled is delicious. All steaks and entrees include a house salad, which is head and shoulders above the norm. Homemade blue cheese dressing or the Caesar for instance give this blend of salad greens a great touch of class. Stinson says all dressings and sauces are prepared in house and freshness is the priority.

The Caesar salad, topped with shaved Parmigiano-Reggiano, was another winner. It's a rarity, made with the authentic ingredients, including eggs and anchovies, garlic, balsamic vinegar and extra virgin olive oil. Topped with a medium rare slice of Tuna make this salad fantastic. Lunch specials are served daily from 11-5, and there is a magnificent Sunday Brunch from 11-5 every Sunday. Great dishes like: Salmon Sardou, Crabmeat Omelet, Philly Cheese Steak Omelet, but the favorite hands down is the classic Savannah Shrimp and Grits. Add a mimosa to these great three course brunch items and you have the perfect ending for a wonderful Sunday afternoon. House special Sweet Potato Bread Pudding is another great item of the menu but the favorite of the week is the Chocolate Mousse with raspberry and white chocolate sauce.

We are open Monday through Thursday 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM, Friday and Saturday 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, and Sunday 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Restaurant Owners: If you would like your restaurant reviewed by The Sea Coast Echo please call Cecilia or Suzette

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SSC basketball: A lesson in passion

Rocks are 7-0 for the year in division play

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

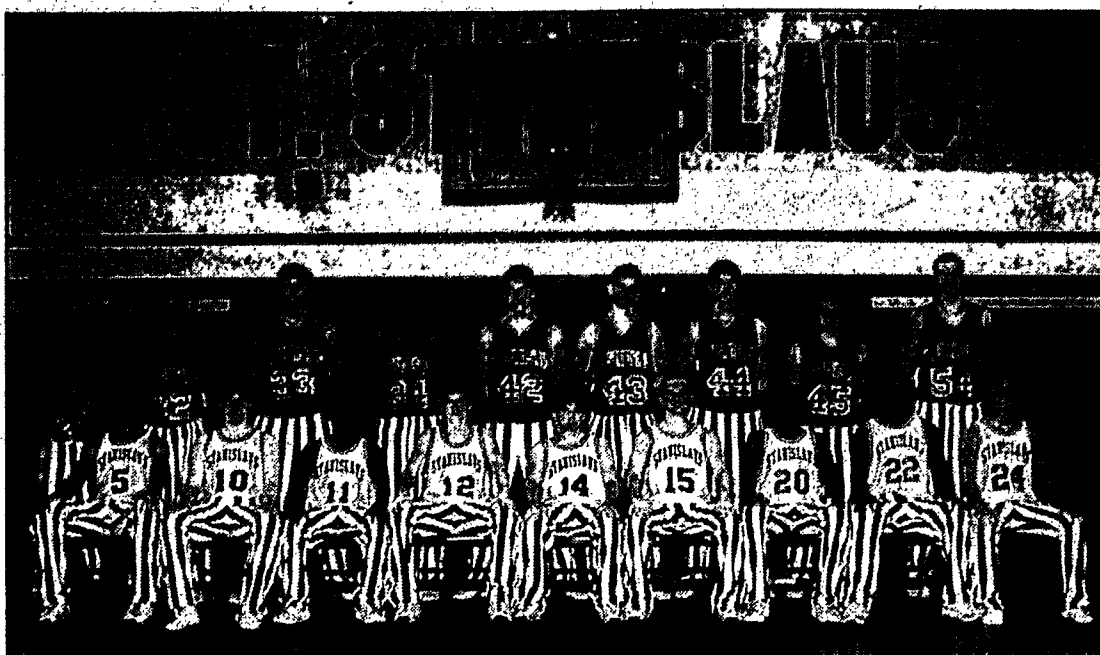
(This is part three of a three-part series on Bay High, Hancock, and SSC basketball.)

The St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws have bolted out of the starting gate on the hardwood in 2003. The Rocks currently maintain a No. 1 ranking in South Mississippi, a No. 3 ranking by the Clarion-Ledger newspaper (the state's only statewide newspaper), and a No. 4 ranking by the Associated Press of Mississippi. It has been a season of unheralded success. It has been a season where the passion of the players can be seen each night on the hardwood. It is a season full of expectation. 2003 is a season in which SSC desires just one thing. The Rocks are moving toward that goal inch by passionate inch.

SSC sports a 21-2 overall record and an unblemished 7-0 mark in Division 8 Class 4A competition this season. The only losses on the Rocks resume are to the last 5A state champions in Gulfport and Harrison Central. The Rocks avenged one of the losses this season by defeating the Admirals in the prestigious Admiral Holiday Classic back in December. The other loss to Harrison Central, a 71-68 defeat in Lyman, had a chance to be avenged in the annual Hoops Fest in Mississippi Coast Coliseum on Friday, January 24; however, Harrison Central refused to play the Rocks a second time.

Last year the Rocks advanced to the semi-finals of the state basketball tournament in Jackson when they defeated the then-defending Oxford Chargers in the first-round. SSC was beat by Picayune in the semis to end their 2002 season. More importantly, the momentum has carried over into 2003.

The Rocks returned their starting backcourt and several letterman from the 4A semi-final team a year ago. But, that doesn't mean their playing style is the same. In 2002, the Rocks had a height disadvantage. In 2003, that certainly is not the case as the Rocks are suiting perhaps the largest team in history.



The 2003 St. Stanislaus Rock-a-Chaws

SSC head coach Jay Ladner stated, "Each team has their own personality and identity. They have their own strengths and weaknesses. The main difference on the outside is the size of the team. Last year we were very small. This year we are the biggest we have ever been. The style of play is a bit different. In 2002, we were not able to slug it out with other teams. This year we can do that and run the court, as well."

The Rocks start 5-7 senior Gabe Willis, 5-9 junior Darius Acker, 6-1 junior Rob Murray, 6-8 senior Brett Amund, and 6-5 junior Mario Faranda. The first ones off the bench for the Rocks are 6-2 senior Sam Tart, 6-6 senior Ben Benvenuti, 6-4 senior Zack Mellon, and 6-6 sophomore Ramsey Shawa. So, as one can see there is a big difference in height from a team that did not have a starter over 6-0 last season. Plus, 2002 Rob Smith has been out all season with a knee injury.

Ladner continued, "One of the team's consistencies this season has been their rebounding. The two games that we have lost in the rebounding category have been the two losses that we suffered this year. The defensive effort is not where I would like it to be at this point. Even the individual play is too inconsistent. This is something we have to build on come tournament time. One good thing about this team is that they are very fun to work with. They are an outstanding group of young men."

While there are some inconsistencies in the team and individual play, the team has found ways to win when they had to and have been extremely close in the

two losses. In the loss to Gulfport, the Rocks were in the contets the whole way despite a poor performance on the boards. Turnovers were the key to that loss as 24 turnovers were committed by the Rocks. SSC was prepared and focused the second time around.

In the Harrison Central loss, inconsistent play on the boards again was a concern for the Rocks as was ball control. Since then the Rocks have won seven in a row including the last-second win over Pass Christian on Friday, January 17. Darius Acker nailed a fade-away in coverage with :00 on the clock to give SSC a 62-60 win.

Ladner commented on his some of his players, "To lead off, as Gabe Willis goes we go. He has done an outstanding job of leading the team by his play and leadership. Darius Acker has had some outstanding games offensively. Brett Amund and Mario Faranda are two players that are very important to us. Their improvement, in light of Robert Ray Smith being out, has had a major impact on our success. Ben Benvenuti and Sam Tart have really had their moments during the course of the season. Rob Murray, a starter, has shown tremendous improvement. That is a tribute to his offseason work."

While the Rocks have won some big games this year and gained respect, not only in South Mississippi, but throughout the state, there is still more work to do. Consistency has to be generated on the boards, on defense, on offense, at the free throw line, and in the mental preparation of the game. Ladner summed up, "As far as the team, we have

two starters back from last season. Everyone has to contribute every night for us to be successful. We have to improve defensively, as a team. We compete in the strongest classification this year - 4A basketball. There are some good teams in our class such as nationally-ranked Lanier in Jackson, Oxford in North Mississippi, and several teams in South Mississippi. Teams like Pass Christian, Gautier, Bay High, and East Central can be dangerous every night. For us to get back to the state tournament will be a very difficult task. We have to be our best in every aspect each and every time we touch the court - practice included. The bar was raised by last year's team. They want to prove that it wasn't a fluke and we want to get back to Jackson."

By the way the Rocks have performed throughout the season, big things are expected. Rest assured, Ladner will have his troops poised and passionate each night until they accomplish what they desire the most.

OLA continues winning ways

THE SEA COAST ECHO
Our Lady Academy plowed Forrest County Agricultural High School 8-0 in soccer action Monday. Laura Ellis and Kara

Harshbarger scored two goals each for the Crescents. Rachel Cranford, Meghan Flynt, Lauren Goulet and Katherine Milner scored one each as OLA ran its record to 14-2-4. Cranford and Ellis had two assists each while Flynt and Harshbarger had one each. Annie Giardino recorded the shutout in goal. The OLA junior high soccer team defeated St. Scholastica 7-0 Tuesday

night. Caroline Eagan had two goals for OLA and Jaimie Reisch, Shelby Wild, Olivia Hoff, Shelly Reboul and Amelia Simpson had one each. Amanda Meyers and Hoff had two assists each while Reisch, Margaret Rittiner and Bri Johnson had one each. Johnson and Simpson shared the shutout in goal.

The team finished the season with a perfect 10-0 record.

Baseball dinner-auction Saturday at Pearl River

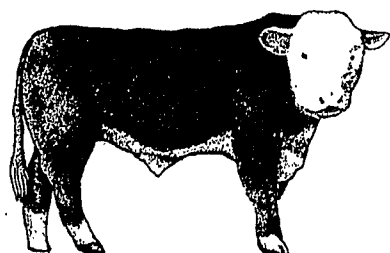
THE SEA COAST ECHO
The Pearl River Community College baseball Wildcats will host their second-annual Preseason Baseball Dinner and Auction this Saturday at 4 p.m. in the Olivia Bender Cafeteria here on the PRCC campus.

Numerous auction items will be up for bids, including an autographed basketball jersey from Los Angeles Laker Shaquille O'Neal and an autographed football by Mississippi's own Jerry Rice, wide receiver for the Super Bowl-bound Oakland Raiders.

Tickets are \$25 per person.

For more information, telephone the PRCC baseball office at (601)403-1326.

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For anyone who has information that can lead to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for killing three cows at the Horse Shoe, which is located off Old Kiln Picayune Road, within the last three to four weeks. If you have any information, please call (228) 255-3082.

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Pace -- killing frost

Vegetables in north Mississippi should be dead. Even kale rarely survives temperatures in the single digits.

Folks in the South may still have greens to harvest, but be sure to remove cold-damaged leaves to help prevent diseases.

The great thing about growing vegetables in Mississippi is that temperature will be favorable again in a little while. Stick a thermometer in the ground when the weather moderates, and plant greens and English peas when it reaches 50 or so.

I receive several calls each year inquiring about the use of non-selective herbicides (those that kill all green vegetation) over dormant turfgrass to control winter annual weeds.

Even after the blast of

cold weather we received this past week, extreme care needs to be taken that the application is made to completely dormant turf.

While there are products on the market that are labeled for such applications, my advice is to carefully assess your particular situation and explore all alternative options as well.

These products are generally very specific as to which turf species can be treated, and severe injury may occur to species not labeled. I noticed this weekend in my lawn that there are several spots protected from the cold and exposed to the warmth of the sun that would be injured from non-selective herbicides if applied now.

Identify the winter weeds present to see if there are other labeled herbicide

choices for control without risk to the desired turf. Many of these winter annuals can be effectively managed simply by mowing.

Bonsai Art Course

On February 17, a basic bonsai course will be offered to residents of the Mississippi Gulf Coast for the second year in Bay St. Louis.

The 12-hour-plus course is spread over a five-week period. The curriculum includes design and styles of bonsai, basic botany, wiring, soils, and bonsai maintenance.

Some of us have received a store-bought bonsai from a well-meaning friend. Often without instructions or even clues.

Others want to expand their horticultural experience and knowledge beyond backyard gardening.

Continued from Page 1B

With a fundamental understanding of how trees grow, how plants perform in containers, and a reasonable amount of patience, you can grow bonsai.

Students provide their own tools (which are minimal) and notepad. The instructor will supply one pro-bonsai plant, one companion plant, two ceramic containers, soil, wire and instructional handouts.

Each session of these hands-on classes is two and a half hours. Cost of the course is \$45 payable before the start of the first session to cover the expense of the materials. The classes will be held at the Train Depot in Bay St. Louis on Monday evenings at 6:30.

For more information, contact the Extension Office in Bay Saint Louis at 467-5456.

Time -- fall-out

Supervisor 1, M. Frierson proposed a \$8-per-acre assessment on uncultivated land -- that presently classified as marsh and timber lands, and \$12 on cultivated or farm land. H.G. Dean, Beat 1 Supervisor seconded the motion, and R.G. Hubbard, Beat 5, joining him and Frierson in voting for the new plan while Charles Lavinghouse of Beat 3 and James Necaice of Beat 4, opposed the motion.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

January 16, 1953 -- Ending a career of 47 years as a postal clerk, George A. Planchet, Grade 9c distributor on the Montgomery and New Orleans RPO, can look

back on his many years of service (as train mail distributor) and recall some exciting incidents.

Planchet retired on Nov. 30, 1952 at which time he reached retirement age, was riding the rails several times when the train was robbed or wrecked. He was born Nov. 9, 1892 in Bay St. Louis.

January 14, a party was given for Planchet by the mail clerks whom he worked with during his career at the home of Eugene Davis in Bay St. Louis. Among those attending were B.B. Bordelson, Division Superintendent of the Postal Transportation Service. J. Craft, J.R. Shadoin, C.E. Byrd, P.M.

Miller, E.S. Miller, E.S. Anderson, J.R. McQuarie, Gordon Romanoff, Bert Estapa, Eugene Davis, Fred Herlihy, local postmaster, Andy Becker, Mayor Warren Carver, Commissioner Sylvan J. Ladner, Jr., Phillip Allison and George M. Fletcher.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 15, 1943 -- Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fayard have added another star in their service flag which hangs in the window of their home on Sycamore Street upon the enlistment of their daughter, Miss Marjorie Rose Fayard, in the United States Navy Nursing Corps.

Lt. Fayard is a graduate of St. Joseph Academy and

Continued from Page 1B

Hotel Dieu of New Orleans Nursing School. Fred Fayard, Jr., the other service man in the Fayard family, has seen active service in Africa and in Egypt, recently returning to this country and is at present training at pre-flight school at Maxwell Field, Alabama.

Advertisement -- Nine Cent Sale -- 20 sheet package of sandpaper; assorted six paint brushes, fiber and horsehair, half-inch, inch and one and half-inch; Easy to Apply Enamel Paints; 9 in. White Dinner Plates; New Oven Proof Glassware, bowls, plates, casseroles, nine cents each. Kerns 5 & 10, 131 Main St., Bay St. Louis.

Ladner -- a good career

ences, my own and those of others, and if I can touch on the experiences of someone else, that is good. The music is simple. I pic, I play and I sing and that is what I like."

One special song on the CD, Ryan's Glass, touches on a life changing experience for many in his circle, especially Ladner and his God parents, Ricky and Sharon Randall. The song was written for their son Ryan Randall, who was a victim of cystic fibrosis. The

boys grew up together.

"In the song I talk about how my faith was tested ... I did a lot of questioning when Ryan died because I guess I always felt deep down that he would be O.K.," said Ladner. "Some day I know I'll be O.K. when my hands touch the soul of Ryan's glass, the lyrics go."

"Ryan's glass is Ryan's hourglass," he explains. "Something I believe we all have at birth and when we are born our glass is turned

over and the sands start to run until the sand runs out and your time is up."

Some of his songs are not quite as abstract, he says, though he does by nature tend to write symbolically of many experiences.

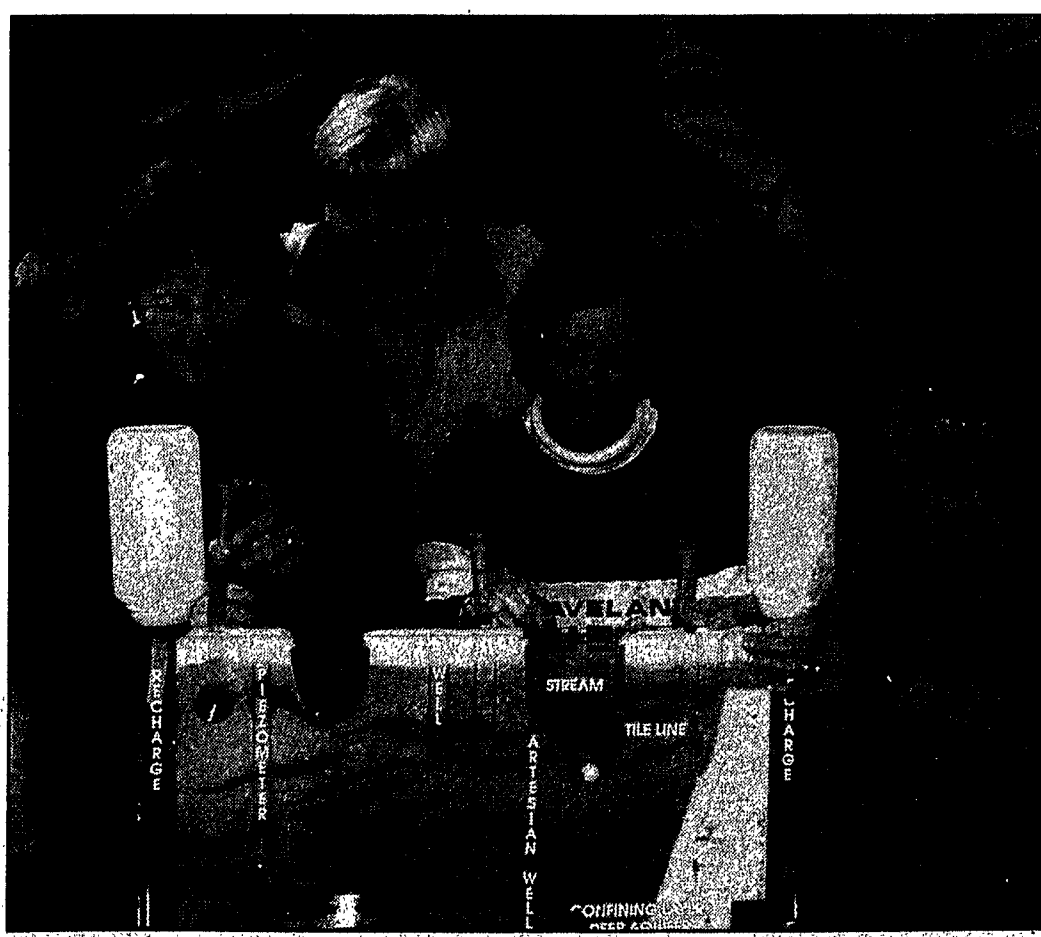
Another lighter selection, Mystical Haven, tells the story of a local tavern who had the policy of giving discounted shots when ever a passing train blew it's whistle.

Ladner will donate 10

Continued from Page 4B

percent of the income from the CD to cystic fibrosis research and plans to give more, he says, when the bills for producing the project, which he financed himself, are paid back. He will also do a showcase from 1-5 p.m. on Sat. Feb. 1 at Paradise Pizza in Kiln. CD's will be available at both events and after January 27 on the web at scarecrowproductions.com.

Teacher workshop at Discovery Center



Teachers statewide are collaborating on environmental curriculum and programs by attending workshops at the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center. The workshops are funded by a CIAP (Coastal Impact Assistance Program) grant awarded to the Discovery Center. From left are Hancock County teachers Kathleen Jenkins, Pam Carruba and Mallin Chamberlain, assisted by Carol Paola, workshop facilitator, with a water flow model that illustrates how groundwater can become polluted.

Duffin is Western graduate

Western Washington University recently released the names of 450 graduates who earned their bachelor's degrees or master's degrees and were awarded diplomas at the conclusion of summer quarter, 2002.

Of those graduates, 289, earned bachelor of arts degrees (BA), seven earned bachelor of arts in education degrees (BAE), 31 earned bachelor of science degrees (BS), 22 earned a master of arts degree (MA), 12 earned master of business administration degrees (MBA), 73 earned master of education degrees (MED), two earned a master of music degree (MMUS), one earned a master in teaching (MIT), and 13 earned master of science degrees (MS).

Among the graduates was Neil Duffin of Bay St. Louis with a master of science degree.

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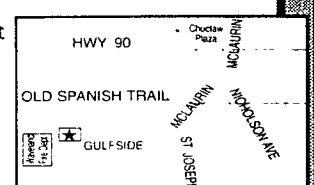
- 5 Male Cats, Neutered, range from 3-5 years old
Smokey gray, orange & white and grey tabbies
- 4 Female Cats, Spayed, range from 3-5 years old
Calicos, smokey gray, orange & white and grey tabbies
- 2 Grey Tabby Kittens, 1 Male "Taz", 1 Female "Izzy"

Adoption prices are:

Puppy or dog \$30 • Kitten or cat \$25

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 467-0230

Included in the adoption fee is first set of vaccination, wormer, rabies vaccination, and a vet check.
Donations of cat litter, laundry soap and dishwashing liquid are greatly appreciated.



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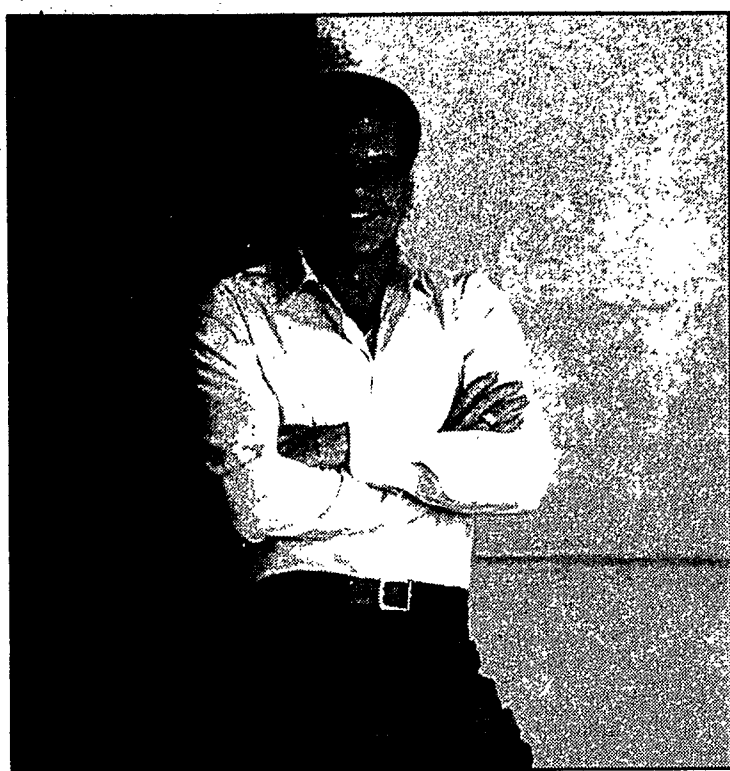
KC & The Sunshine Band shake, shake, shake it up at Casino Magic

THE SEA COAST ECHO

With sales of over 100 million records, nine Grammy nominations, three Grammy Awards and an American Music Award, KC and The Sunshine Band is one of the main forces in pop music, and they will be at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Saturday, January 25 at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$19.95, \$24.95 and \$29.95 and available at Casino Magic Box Office or at any Ticketmaster location.

With hits like "Get Down Tonight," and "Shake Your Booty," KC & the Sunshine Band have been established as movers and shakers in the music business.

The band began making their mark in 1975, when they released their self-titled album which went triple platinum and contained the number one hits "Get Down Tonight" and "That's The Way (I Like It)." In fact, KC is only the



KC, sans Sunshine Band

third act, behind the Beatles and the Jackson Five, to have four number one singles in the span of one year: "Boogie Shoes,"

"Get Down Tonight," "That's The Way (I Like It)" and "Rock Your Baby." KC's next album, "Part 3," released the next year, con-

tinued the hit-making tradition with number one singles "I'm Your Boogie Man," "Shake Your Booty," and "Keep It Coming Love."

In 1978, he added yet another hit with "Boogie Shoes," which was included on the "Saturday Night Fever" soundtrack; KC followed that hit with "Please Don't Go," and the Top Five duet with Teri DeSario "Yes, I'm Ready."

KC's music continues to be a favorite today. His songs have appeared in ads for companies like General Motors, Burger King, Nestlé Toll House Cookies, Kmart, Old Navy, and Nick at Night. His music has also been featured in over 75 movies such as Forrest Gump, Boogie Nights, Boys Don't Cry, Rush Hour, and Carlito's Way. KC songs are regularly heard at sporting events, from Wrigley Field to the University of Tennessee to hundreds of high school gymnasiums across America.

February at the Casino Magic Entertainment Complex

Friday and Saturday, February 7 and 8
Donny Osmond at 9 p.m.
Tickets: \$14.95, \$19.95, and \$24.95

Friday, February 14
Lou Rawls at 9 p.m.
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French Quarter is second stop of multi-city tour designed to educate, entertain

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Tipitina's in the French Quarter will brim with excitement when storyteller Denise Thimes combines spoken word and singing to link the lessons of slavery to the teaching of personal freedom in her portrayal of six black women through two centuries of African-American history.

Thimes, a St. Louis-based singer and actress, will perform her original one-woman show at 7 o'clock Friday evening, as part of a multi-city "Teaching Personal Freedom" tour sponsored by Procter & Gamble. The play weaves together the stories of strong women such as Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, while also sharing passages written by Angelou, Hughes and King. "I am so proud to be a part of this project," said headliner Denise Thimes. "When P&G asked me to participate in a tour that was going to not only entertain, but also educate about our history and encourage personal freedom ... I jumped at the chance."

The tour is designed to help increase awareness and generate support for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, scheduled to open in Cincinnati in 2004. The Center will offer a variety of programs, exhibits, and artifacts that celebrate courage, cooperation and perseverance through the legacy of the Underground Railroad.

"We are honored to bring these unique events to local communities," said Berrece Andrews, P&G associate director external relations. "Commemorating the struggles and triumphs of African-Americans while teaching the value and importance of personal freedom is a powerful and enriching experience."

For more information about the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center visit www.freedomcenter.org



Actress/singer Denise Thimes portrays freedom fighter Harriet Tubman and five other great African-American women in P&G's production of Teaching Personal Freedoms, a one-woman performance to raise awareness about the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

<<http://www.freedomcenter.org>>. For more information about tour events, promotion, or further P&G community events visit www.pgbrandsaver.com <<http://www.pgbrandsaver.com>>.

About the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

A \$110-million facility, the Freedom Center will feature three pavilions, celebrating courage, cooperation, and perseverance. Set to open on the northern bank of the Ohio River in Cincinnati in 2004, NURFC will link the legacy of slavery to the history of freedom in the United States. Using a variety of programs, exhibits, events, media, and

live performances, the Center will prominently highlight descendants of the "conductors" and "passengers" of the Underground Railroad. It also hopes to inspire children - the freedom fighters of tomorrow - with true stories of

Underground Railroad heroes. In addition, a national network of more than 60 research and education-focused Freedom Stations will link local communities to NURFC.

It's in there.



"Something for everyone."

Mariah Rasbury, 2 years old

It's in the paper.

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AUCTION SATURDAY JAN 25TH, 7:00 PM. 220 Coleman Ave, Waveland. 467-5528. Consignments welcome. Call in advance.

30 Lost and Found

MISSING 8 YR OLD FEMALE POMERANIAN color red. Needs meds and is child's pet. Call 469-9009. Off Ballantyne.

36 Special Notices

FINANCIAL SERVICES AT YOUR fingertips! Personal loans, business loans, debt consolidation, and mortgages, and other financing available to those with good or bad credit. Give us a try! Must be employed with a minimum monthly income of \$1,000/mth. Call 1-877-864-0233 for more information.

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ADDITIONS, REMODELING Nichols Construction! All Home Repairs. Interior/Exterior Painting. Concrete/work/driveways. ETC. Sheet Rock Finishing blown ceilings. 30yrs/Experience. Licensed-Bonded. Free-Estimates. 467-3130.

ARNOLD'S CONCRETE FINISHING Forming and finishing driveways, walkways, patio's, etc. Also available coloring and texturing. Call Thomas, 467-4960.

FOREMAN PROFESSIONAL Roofing: Now servicing all your roofing needs! Free estimates within 24 hours. Licensed, bonded, insured. 463-9912.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR, ROOFING, carpentry, vinyl siding, additions, painting. Free estimates, licensed, bonded. Call Mason 466-4877.

GIPSON'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS: 42 yrs. resident, 25 yrs. experience, licensed, bonded, insured. Repairs, remodeling, additions, vinyl siding, cement work, bath rooms & kitchen. Free estimates, references. All work guaranteed, 255-8367.

SONNY CUEVAS CONSTRUCTION: Additions, new construction, remodeling, roofing, painting, etc. Licensed and bonded, references. 30 years experience, free estimates. 466-9118.

46 Home Improvement

JASPER FAUCETTA HOME IMPROVEMENTS: Established 1972. Residential, commercial, new homes, additions, remodeling, vinyl siding, roofing, concrete driveways and foundation repairs, and house leveling. All work guaranteed. State licensed, insured, bonded, references. Free estimates. 467-5845.

53 Schools & Instruction

PIANO LESSONS IN MY HOME. 467-6979

56 Services Offered

*ALBERT'S GRASS CUTTING. Tree trimming and removal, trash hauling, weed eating & edging. 467-0049.

A & A TRASH HAULING. Got trash give us a call 228-467-6571.

AA VINCENT'S DUMP TRUCK SERVICE. Fill dirt, sand, top soil, gravel. Dirt spread. 467-9273, cell 332-1453.

AAA TRASH HAULING AND grass cutting. 467-1577 or 467-4266, anytime.

STARLIGHT PRODUCTIONS

Local Professional D.J.
19 years experience. Specializing in
• Receptions • School Functions
• Private Parties • Karaoke Available
Day

146 Rooms For Rent

REDUCED RATE FOR FAST RENT!
AL spacious A/C room at Carroll House. frig, TV, phone, & other extras. Good neighborhood.
\$300/month. 467-6713.

147 Apartments For Rent

1 BEDROOM, ALL ELECTRIC. Carpet, stove, refrigerator, water included. 100" B' Blaize Ave., BSL, \$350/month, \$300/deposit. Pet/free. Lease required. 463-0043, 467-3935.

1e MOVES YOU IN!! Call Signature Lake Apartments for details. 452-9901.

2 BEDROOM APT. FOR RENT. 1 bathroom, washer/dryer hookups, total electric, \$500 per month + deposits (228)586-0053

2 BEDROOM DUPLEX, 2 FULL Baths. Utility room with hook-ups. 1 year lease. \$550.00 includes water. 322 Old Spanish Trail, Waveland. 467-3601.

2BR UPSTAIRS UNFURNISHED apartment. Central a/h Pet/free environment. B.S.L. 255-3867.

2BR/1BA COMPLETELY FURNISHED Waveland, apt. Includes water/cable, indoor pool. 1 block from beach. Pet free. \$650/month. (985)641-5514

The Waverly Apartments
NOW LEASING
Brand New!! 1, 2 & 3 BR's
New Special: 99¢ Deposit
1st Month Rent FREE
(228) 463-2635

B.S.L., 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT. Stove, refrigerator, central air/heat. \$350/month. Call 228-466-6484 or 228-216-0931.

BEAUTIFUL, SAFE, LARGE 2 BR. apartment in secluded neighborhood. Wrap around porch, large kitchen, large living room, large dining room. 502 Sunset, B.S.L. \$585/month plus deposit. 467-2562.

FOR RENT: 1 BEDROOM Furnished apartment. Call A.J. 467-8401.

FURNISHED WATERFRONT: Includes; cable, electric, laundry, telephone, trash p/u, water/sewer. \$150/wk. 463-0036.

LIVE FREE IN WAVELAND under new management Oak Park Apartments offers 2 months free rent to qualified applicants. 467-6882

NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL \$99 MOVE in. 1-2-3 Bedrooms. Pelican Pointe Apts 467-3388

SMALL STUDIO APT. NEAR MAGIC \$435/mo includes utilities. 228-669-8324.

SPACIOUS 2BR APARTMENT w/loft, W/D, new carpet/paint. \$590/mo+\$590dep. Also 1BR Cottage. \$390/mo+\$390dep. Both walking distance to beaches/downtown BSL. Available Feb. 1st. 228-469-0821.

WATERFRONT: 1500 SQ.FT. APT. Dining-room, 2 bedroom, new kitchen appliance, new carpet/flooring, large decks, pet free, drug free, \$650/month+deposit. 467-6849.

148 Mobile Homes For Rent

2 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME PARTIALLY furnished, \$400/month, 214-9953.

2 BEDROOMS HEAT/AIR, ALL electric. Standard Dedeaux Road. 255-7480

2BR TRAILER FOR RENT, KILN Area. 255-5529.

2BR/1BA TRAILER FOR RENT IN Kiln, Pet/free. 255-9397.

FOR RENT: 1 BEDROOM TRAILER, cable, utilities furnished. \$100/week, \$100/deposit. 463-1872.

FOR RENT: 2 BEDROOM TRAILER, cable, utilities furnished. \$150/week, \$300/deposit. 463-1872.

TWO BEDROOM ONE BATH \$360 per month. 228-760-2205.

TWO BEDROOM ONE BATH \$415 per month. 228-760-2205.

149 Mobile Homes For Sale

USED TRAILER, 12'x65', 2BR/1BA, all appliances, must be moved. \$5500/obo. Ask for Terry 228-323-5379.

150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

2 BEDROOM BRICK HOME. Large kitchen, living room, carport, utility room, new ceramic tile, freshly painted, very clean. 467-7363.

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH HOUSE. \$500 month, \$500 security deposit. 467-9278.

2BR 1BA HOUSE IN BAY ST. Louis. \$500/month. \$500/security deposit. (985)502-5921

2BR/1BA, 1700 SQ.FT. LIVING, with large porch, ac/heat. \$775/month, water paid. 5201 Bordage St., Clermont Harbor. 504-908-3754/cell, 504-833-7027.

2BR/1BA, FENCED YARD \$600/MO Call 466-8600.

2BR/2BA HOME IN DIAMONDHEAD 98170 Golf Club Dr. \$850. Call owner/agent at 255-7702.

2BR/2BA ON WATER. \$575/month, \$500/deposit. Pet free. 466-3885.

3 BEDROOM HOUSE: Fenced yard and big shed. Call 467-7363.

3BR/2-FULL BATHS, FENCED yard, 12 ft. private fence in back yard, close to beach, all electric, pet/smoke free. B.S.L. (352)394-4782.

3BR/2BA COUNTRY HOME FOR rent. New woodwork ceramic tile, and carpet. Central A/H. On 2 acres. \$725/month. 216-2031.

BOAT LOVERS DREAM: Private launch and dock. 2/1, newly renovated, all new appliances including w/d. \$550/agent month, \$400/deposit. Call 463-9212.

FOR RENT: 3BR/2BA, new construction, 168 & 172 Felicity, \$775.; 803 Spanish Acres Dr. 3BR/2BA \$600/month; 345 Ulman Ave, 2BR/1BA Apartment \$500. Call Chari at McIntyre Rapp Real Estate. 467-3777.

HISTORIC HOME ON BEACH 3BR/3BA \$1500/month 493-7333.

KILN: PRECIOUS 2 BEDROOM home nestled under live oaks w/hardwood floors and 2 screened porches. \$550 mo., pet free. Key Properties 467-0600.

LIKE NEW 3 BR, 2 BA FROM \$750 per month. Century 21 of Diamondhead. 255-3550.

SHORELINE PARK, WATERFRONT 2br/1ba, large private shaded lot, private boat slip, outside storage building, city water, sewer and garbage included in rent. \$500/month, \$300/deposit, 318-341-2014, 601-831-5416.

SKYLINE DR. RAISED 3BR/2BA Cent/a/h, carpet. w/d hookup \$725+dep. evenings 228-467-7142.

156 Lots/Acreage

OWNER FINANCE: NICE BUILDING LOT, Pine Ridge, Waveland, \$19,000. Gold Coast, 228-467-4479.

WHITE CYPRESS LAKES: OWNER financing. Beautiful acreage lots, waterfront, trailer lots, pool, clubhouse, tennis courts, and fishing. Ten miles east of I-59, Carniee exit. Thirty miles from Bay St. Louis. 228-255-1790.

158 Commercial Property

1700 SQ. FT. HOUSE BUILD 1898 on 150'x140' lot, fenced, 311 Ulman Ave., B.S.L. 601-798-3035.

2 COMMERCIAL LOTS FOR SALE: 100'x200' total, on Hwy. 603. \$45,900 for both. 467-9545 or 466-2505.

COMPLETELY REMODELED: 1200 sq. ft. office, on Hwy. 90, B.S.L. \$850/month. 467-5011.

HWY 603: 1,000 SQ. FT. 2BR APT upstairs, 1,000 sq. ft. retail/office space. Sailfish Realty. \$990/month Lease. 466-9947.

OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE available: Choctaw Village, Waveland Ms. Phone 228-255-4396 or Pager 228-883-8554.

PRUDENTIAL GARDNER: Excellent office location, 1015 Hwy. 90. 2 units available. Close to Hancock Medical Center. Terms negotiable. Call for info/appointment. 467-1602.

159 Houses For Sale

4BR HOUSE, 2,443 SQ. FT. 118 Grass St. Idlewood Subdivision, Waveland. Reduced. 467-3601, or 255-5326, 341-3601.

CUTE, CUTE, CUTE! Total Remodel! Everything new! 3BR/2BA near beach, Waveland. Large lot, quiet street. 410 West 4th. \$87,000. (985)863-3020.

159 Houses For Sale

DELISLE: 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH home w/central heat/air on 2.6 tree studded acres in the country. High & dry, convenient to I-10. Only \$56,900. 467-0600.

DIAMONDHEAD, 3BR/2BA, like new brick home. 2 car garage, ceramic tile, high ceiling, large master bath, large lot. \$132,000. 466-9376.

I WILL PAY TOP \$ FOR YOUR PROPERTY, any condition. Will pay all closing cost. Agents protected. O/A. (504)908-7653.

NEW CONSTRUCTION 3BR/2BA 1825 sq. ft. 705 Cedar St., Waveland. 467-3601 or 341-3601.

OWNER FINANCING: ACRE PLUS Pompano St., off St. Joseph, Waveland. 3br/2bath, under construction, brick, fireplace, cathedral ceiling. Cost \$125,000., \$6,000 down. Gold Coast, 228-467-4479.

WALK TO BEACH: 1 ACRE PLUS. 1br/ba, new a/c, \$57,300. 120 Cedar Point Road off Dunbar. Gold Coast, 228-467-4479.

Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
LENORA BIBLO PLAINTIFF
VS.
RICHARD DIBSBURY DEFENDANT
CIVIL ACTION NO. 02-0103

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
SUMMONS
TO: RICHARD DIBSBURY
Address unknown
You have been made a Defendant in the Complaint filed in this Court by Lenora Biblo, seeking damages for an automobile accident that occurred on August 31, 2001, in Hancock County, Mississippi.

You are required to mail or hand-deliver a copy of a written response to the Plaintiff to R. Hayes Johnson, Jr., attorney for Plaintiff, whose mailing address is 1919 15th Street, Gulfport, MS 39501, and whose telephone number is (228) 822-0016. YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS ON YOU. IF YOUR RESPONSE IS NOT SO MAILED OR DELIVERED, A JUDGMENT OF DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED BY THE PETITION.

You must also file the original of your response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time after the date of the first publication of this notice.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court this 13 day of January, 2003.

Circuit Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi
By: Karen L. Piles D.C.

R. Hayes Johnson, Jr.
JOHNSON LAW FIRM, PLLC
1919 15th Street
Gulfport, MS 39501
01/16, 01/23, 01/30/03

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DARLENE A. BEDFORD PETITIONER
VS.
RUSSELL RUSPOLI PETITIONER
CAUSE NO. 2002-244

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Letters of Testamentary having been granted on the 8th day of October, 2002, by the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi, to the undersigned executor of the will and estate of DARLENE A. BEDFORD, deceased, Cause No. 2002-586, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This 2 day of January, 2003.

RUSSELL RUSPOLI
By: OLEN LLOYD ANDERSON
DATED 1-3-03

OLEN LLOYD ANDERSON
Attorney for Administrator
P.O. Box 3581
Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-3581
Telephone 463-9090
Facsimile 463-0404
MS Bar No. 10050
01/09, 01/16, 01/23/03

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DARLENE A. BEDFORD PETITIONER
VS.
RUSSELL RUSPOLI PETITIONER
CAUSE NO. 2002-586

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Letters of Testamentary having been granted on the 8th day of October, 2002, by the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi, to the undersigned executor of the will and estate of DARLENE A. BEDFORD, deceased, Cause No. 2002-586, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This 2 day of January, 2003.

RUSSELL RUSPOLI
By: OLEN LLOYD ANDERSON
DATED 1-3-03

OLEN LLOYD ANDERSON
Attorney for Administrator
P.O. Box 3581
Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-3581
Telephone 463-9090
Facsimile 463-0404
MS Bar No. 10050
01/09, 01/16, 01/23/03

Call 467-5473 to subscribe to The Sea Coast Echo Newspaper for all your local news!

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Public Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DARLENE A. BEDFORD PETITIONER
VS.
RUSSELL RUSPOLI PETITIONER
CAUSE NO. 2002-586

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
TO: THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW OF DARLENE A. BEDFORD, DECEASED, AND ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE ESTATE OF DARLENE A. BEDFORD, DECEASED

You have been made respondents in the lawsuit filed in this Court by RUSSELL RUSPOLI, Administrator.

The Petition filed against you has initiated a civil action seeking to have Theresa Marie Benjamin, Christopher Hollis and Ambury Hollis adjudicated and decreed by this Court to be the sole and only heirs at law of DARLENE A. BEDFORD, Deceased, as fully set out in the Petition on file in the Chancery Court of Hancock County, Mississippi.

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR and defend against the petition filed against you in this action at 9:30 o'clock a.m. on the 10th day of February, 2003, in the courtroom of the HANCOCK COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX, 306 Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

ISSUED under my hand and seal of this Court on the 13th day of January, 2003.

(SEAL)

TIMOTHY A. KELLAR
Chancery Clerk
By: Kim Bonano D.C.
Dated: 1-3-03
01/09, 01/16, 01/23/03

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
No. 2002-912

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 3rd day of December, 2002, by the Chancery Court of Hancock County, Mississippi, to the undersigned executor of the will and estate of HAROLD M. MADISON, deceased, in Cause No. 2002-912, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to the law within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 27th day of December, 2002.

Bridget L. Tell
Executor

Paul M. Newton, Jr.
Newton and Hoff, L.L.P.
2019 23rd Avenue
Post Office Box 910
Gulfport, Mississippi 39502
Telephone (228) 863-8827
01/09, 01/16, 01/23/03

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HAZEL GENOVESE PINKERTON PETITIONER
VS.
JULIE F. CHOATE, JERRY M. PINKERTON AND SUSAN P. SCOTT, PLAINTIFFS, SEEKING TO ADJUST THE HEIRS AT LAW OF HAZEL GENOVESE PINKERTON

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:30 a.m. on the 18th day of February, 2003, in the courtroom of the Hancock County Chancery Clerk at 306 Highway 90, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi 39520 and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

ISSUED under my hand and seal of said Court, this 8th day of January, 2003.

(Seal)

Timothy A. Kellar
Chancery Clerk
By: Pamela Cuevas, DC
01/16, 01/23, 01/30, 02/06/03

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
OF
EDITH B. BACK, DECEASED
NO. 2002-952

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 20th day of December, 2002, by the Chancery Court of Hancock County, Mississippi, to the undersigned executor of the estate of Edith B. Back, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from date of first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This 6th day of January, 2003.

ALLAN T. BACK, Administrator of Estate of Edith B. Back, Deceased

FAVRE, GENIN & SCAFIDE
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 70
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
01/09, 01/16, 01/23/03

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
OF
MARY ROSE YAMBRA, DECEASED
NO. 2003-32

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 14th day of January, 2003, by the Chancery Court of Hancock County, Mississippi, to the undersigned executor of the estate of Mary Rose Yambra, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from date of first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred. This 14th day of January, 2003.

JULIE J. YAMBRA, JR., Administrator of Estate of Mary Rose Yambra, Deceased

FAVRE, GENIN & SCAFIDE
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 70
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
01/16, 01/23, 01/30/03

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
OF
MARY ROSE YAMBRA, DECEASED
NO. 2003-32

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 14th day of January, 2003, by the Chancery Court of Hancock County, Mississippi, to the undersigned executor of the estate of Mary Rose Yambra, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from date of first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred. This 14th day of January, 2003.

JULIE J. YAMBRA, JR., Administrator of Estate of Mary Rose Yambra, Deceased

FAVRE, GENIN & SCAFIDE
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 70
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
01/16, 01/23, 01/30/03

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
OF
MARY ROSE YAMBRA, DECEASED

Public Notices

proposals for Solid Waste Services
located at Hancock County Solid Waste
Authority will be received at the Hancock
County Chancery Clerk, PO Box 428
429, 152 Main Street, Bay Saint Louis, MS
until 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME on the 18th of
February 2003 and then will be publicly opened
and at the regular monthly meeting of the
Board on Monday, the 18th day of February
at 4:00 P.M. or shortly thereafter located at
po. Bay Saint Louis, MS. Any proposals
submitted after the specified time and not
received at the time will be returned unopened
and that are mailed shall be addressed to
Hancock County Solid Waste Authority c/o
Hancock County Chancery Clerk, PO Box 428
429, 152 Main Street, Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520. All
its shall be sealed and mailed in accord-
with the information to Proposers
GENERAL INFORMATION AND SPECIFICATION
The organization of the services will be within the
jurisdiction of Hancock County only
The following locations have been provided
for the performance of the contract. Documents for
the contract are contemplated herein:
1. Office of Supervisors
Hancock County Courthouse
152 Main Street
Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520
2. Southern Regional Wastewater Management
Plant
Gulfside Drive
Biloxi, MS 39576
The Authority will perform public work, the successful
contractor, as applicable, hold or obtain such
licenses and business licenses as required
by the statutes.
A contract will be awarded for the
as contemplated herein, the Authority will
conduct an investigation as is necessary
to determine the performance record and ability of
the apparent lowest responsible responsive

proper to perform the size and type of specified under this Contract. Upon the proposed shall submit such information deemed necessary by the District to the the proposer's qualifications.

The information requested is proposed service contact Company Engineering, P.A. Contact: 228-467-2770 located at 3036 Long Drive, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

It is requested that the County and any of the Contract Documents, and to the the awarded Contract for a period that shall not extend beyond 90 days from opening date.

THIS 16TH DAY OF JANUARY 2003, the County Solid Waste Authority

DEEDY FAYNE

/19, 01/23, 01/26, 01/30/03

**IN THE CHANCERY COURT
OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
CHANCERY COURT DEPARTMENT
IN SERVICES, BY ZADIE ROGERS,
PLAINTIFFS REGIONAL DIRECTOR,
RAYVEN LENA CRANE, A MINOR,
THROUGH HER NEXT FRIEND,
ZADIE ROGERS, PETITIONERS**

VS.
**WM NOELLE CRANE AND
WM AM LEAM HAMPTON, JR.,
RESPONDENTS**

**CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 2002-936
CHANCERY COURT DEPARTMENT
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

FATTE Noelle Crane, who is not to be found and William Leam Hampton, Jr. who is not to be found last known address is R R 2 Box 2eshopeshop, Pennsylvania 18630 have been made as Respondent in the suit as this Court by the County of Hancock and the County of Hancock in the Department of Human Services by Zadie Rogers, Social Services Regional Director, and Rayven Lena Crane, a minor, seeking to terminate your civil rights as those rights to date to said minor and demanding that the full custody, control and right to act on behalf of said minor be placed with the Hancock County Department of Human Services. Respondent, other than you in this is William Neal Hampton, Jr.

**YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR AND
ANSWER AGAINST YOU IN THIS ACTION FILED
AT 10:00 A.M. ON THE 20TH DAY OF MARCH,
IN THE COURTROOM OF THE HANCOCK
COUNTY JUDICIAL COURTHOUSE
AT ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI, AND IN
OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AND
ANSWER A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT
MAY BE ENTERED FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED
IN THE PETITION.**

YOU are not required to file an answer or other pleading with this Court, but you are required under my hand and seal of said Court.

day of Jan. 2003.

TIMOTHY A. KELLAR,
CHANCERY CLERK
HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI 39521
By Larnell Scarborough Deputy Clerk

of Scales
Attorney General
of the Attorney General
Box 220
on Mississippi 39205-0220
Phone No : 359-4213
76393
01/23, 01/30/03

**INSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE
OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HANCOCK**

REAS., on the 18th day of October, 1993, Caramela, Caramela, Norma G. Caramela, husband and wife, executed and delivered a certain Deed of Trust unto D.J. Horecky, Trustee for Es Mortgage Company, Inc., Beneficiary, to secure an indebtedness therein described, which said Deed of Trust is recorded in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi at Book 398 at Page 48, and assignments on record REAS., by various assignments on record REAS., said Deed of Trust was ultimately assigned to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, by instrument recorded in the office of the office of the aforesaid Chancery Clerk in Book 580 at Page 355, and REAS., on the 19th day of January, 2001, the holder of said Deed of Trust substituted and assigned Dian Stearns, as Trustee in said Deed of Trust, by instrument recorded in the office of the aforesaid Chancery Clerk in Book 617 at Page 150 and

REAS., on the 24th day of October, 2002, the holder of said Deed of Trust substituted and assigned John C. DiGiuseppe, Jr., as Trustee in said Deed of Trust, by instrument recorded in the office of the aforesaid Chancery Clerk in Book 641 at Page 461, and

REAS., claims having been made in the payments of the indebtedness secured by the Deed of Trust, and the holder of said Deed of Trust, having requested the undersigned so to do on the 31st day of December, 2003, I will, on the next regular hours, at public outcry, offer for sale and sell, at the Main front door of the Hancock County Courthouse at Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, to the highest bidder, the following described land and property situated in Hancock County, Mississippi, to-wit:

Fifteen (15) and Sixteen (16), Block Eight Eighths Acres Addition to Waveland a subdivision according to Official Record Map No. 10 and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hancock County, Mississippi, in Miscellaneous

description hereof
 only convey such title as is vested in me as
 instituted Trustee
 JAMES M. J. SIGNATURE, this 30th day of
 December, 2002
 IN C. MORRIS, III
 INSTITUTE TRUSTEE
 100 AVENUE OF AMERICA
 SUITE 100
 MOBILE LA 71201
 330-9020
 01/16, 01/23, 01/30/03
OFFICE OF SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE'S SALE
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HANCOCK
 Michael D. Haas, Jr., Substituted Trustee in
 of Trust from Brian Brooks to J. P. Com-
 b, Trustee, and Jerry Beaujeux, Beneficia-
 December 2001 and filed December
 2001, recorded in Book 669, Pages 229-240,
 Records of Mortgages and Deeds of Trust at
 of Hancock County, Mississippi, being
 vested by him of said debt secured to fore-
 close thereon, for default therein, will on February
 2003, during legal hours, offer for sale and sell
 public outcry for cash to the highest bidder at
 front door of the Courthouse of said County
 of Hancock County, Mississippi, the real
 property described as
 1008, LAMBERT DEVELOPMENT SUBDIVI-
 sion, Hancock County, Mississippi, as per the
 plat map of plat of said subdivision on file and
 of Deeds of Trust Records
 of Hancock County, Mississippi.
 Parcel #: 164P-10-121-1000
 of the property described in said Deed
 of Trust.
 undersigned was substituted as Trustee by
 instrument dated September 23, 2002, recorded
 September 30, 2002, in Book 715, page 615
 and filed in the office of the Chancery Clerk
 of Hancock County, Mississippi.
 only convey only such title as is vested in me as
 instituted Trustee
 CERTIFIED, POSTED AND SIGNED, this the
 day of January, 2003.
 MICHAEL D. HAAS, JR.
 SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE
 and Haas Attorneys
 N. Second Street
 St. Louis, MO 39520
 Tel No. 497-8574
 Bar No. 5091
 01/16, 01/23, 02/06/03

**SUBSTITUTE
WITNESSES:** c
Bryant Petersen
Elena Marie R
Michael P. Lee
Home Equity C
residing in Da
in the office o
of Hancock, S
WHEREAS, C
L. H. the succe
Equity Corpor
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on May 1, 19
December 5, 2
the aforesaid
Page 237; and
WHEREAS, de
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Lot 1, Block 4,
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#2002-804, D
of Trust.
I, WILL, CONVI
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WITNESS MY
Phillip E. Mays
December 20, 2
Phillip E. Mays
606 Katherine I
Jackson, MS 3
601-864-1001
01/02, 01/09, 0

TRUST
WHEREAS, R. L.
and Paula R. T.
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306-987-1111;
WHEREAS, the
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County Court
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Lot 105, Sec
County of Miss
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147-149, deed
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good, to be m
W. J. B. S. M. S.
January, 2003

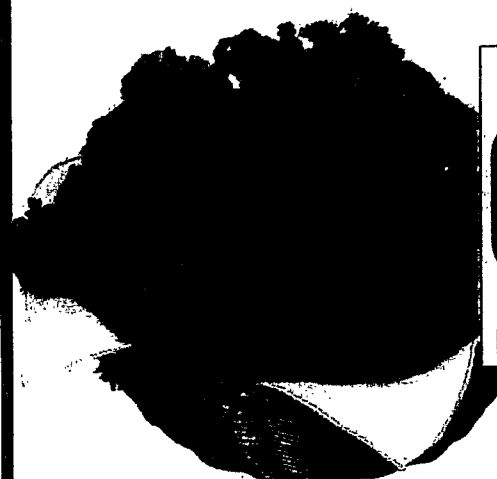
PREPARED BY
Foreclosure Dept
POST OFFICE
BIRMINGHAM, MI
(601) 825-9506
01/23; 01/30; 0

SUBSTITUTE
STATE OF MI
COUNTY OF H
WHEREAS, o
Brandy Dawn
Michael Gulich
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Lots 13 and 1
Subdivision of
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Clerk of Hancock
County, Missis
Substitute Trust
WITNESS MY
December, 201
COUNTY OF MO
SUBSTITUTE
2309 OLIVER
MONROE, LA
70130-9920
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01/02; 01/09; 0

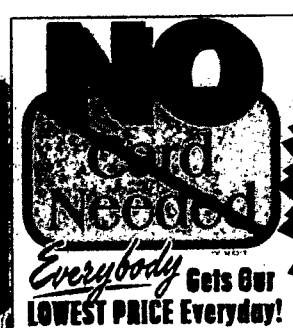
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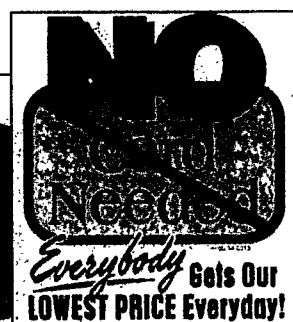
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USDA Fresh Fryer
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 Quarters**



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 Marinades**
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\$1.99
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 Ribeye**

29[¢]
 Value Bag
 LB

\$3.99
 Cry-o-vac
 LB

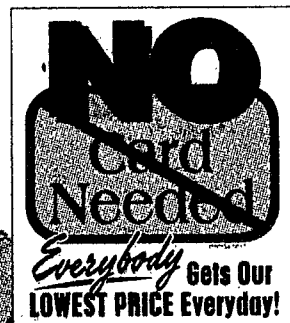
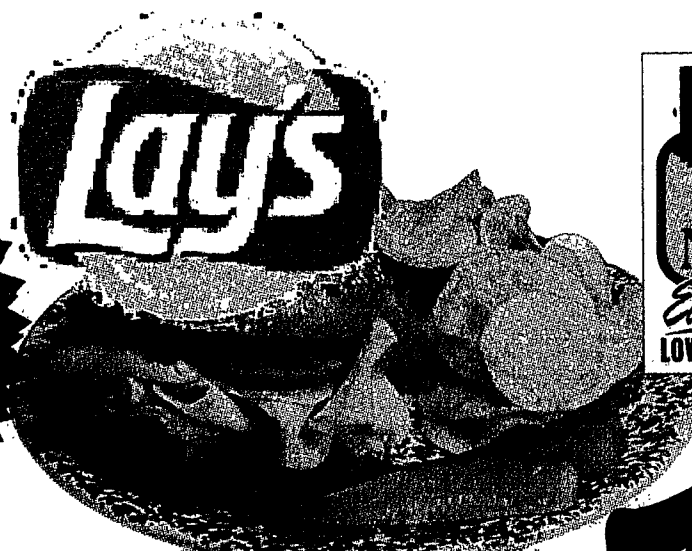
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Bananas



**Dairy
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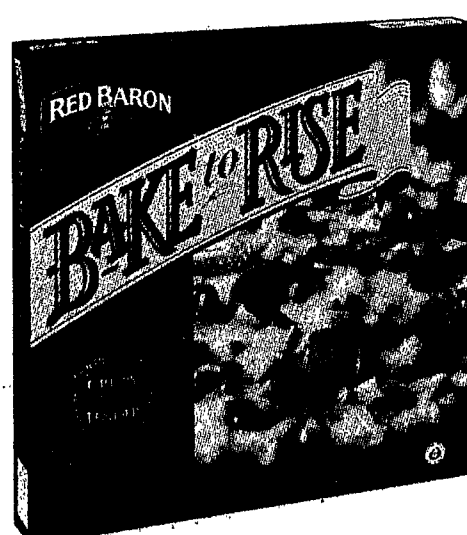
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choice
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 Hardy Court • Gulfport
 Sun - Sat 7:00 am-10:00 pm

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 Fri & Sat 7:00 am-9:00 pm



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 CORRECT ALL TYPOGRAPHICAL AND PICTORIAL ERRORS.
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Sale prices good
 Jan. 22 - Jan. 28, 2003



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